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### SUMMARY OF NEWS.

—453—

#### Politics of Europe.

The facts communicated by us in Saturday's JOURNAL, appear to have been all that were contained in the brief Letter which came by Express from Bombay. The more detailed intelligence will probably reach us to-day or to-morrow, in the BOMBAY GAZETTE; and whatever we may learn further on the subject, whether from this or any other source, we shall publish without delay.

The Question of the Practicability of an Invasion of India by a Russian Army, supposing them either to conquer or receive the voluntary co-operation of Russia, is one that must strongly suggest itself at the present moment; and we have thought that we could not render our Readers a more agreeable service than by presenting them, in our Paper of to-day, with a Dissertation on that subject, by a very competent judge, both as a Soldier and a Traveller, Major MACDONALD KINNIE, of the Madras Establishment, whose Geographical Memoir on Persia, and Travels through Asia Minor and Koordistan, have obtained for him well-merited honors and distinctions. Without agreeing in every minute particular with the Writer, we may safely recommend the Dissertation as one likely to repay the Reader's attention at any time, but particularly so at the present moment.

In the absence of later intelligence from Europe, we continue our selections from the files of late Papers in our possession, still far from being exhausted; and we have been so fortunate as to light on some articles for to-day's JOURNAL, which bear strongly on the discussions that have lately occupied the Calcutta Press. The Proposer of a grand Metropolitan Temple for Christian and Apostolic Worship, makes several remarks on the Uniform Church of England Liturgy, which may be worthy the attention of VINDEX, who has stood forward in the GOVERNMENT GAZETTE as the Champion of the Episcopal Establishment. The calmness, modesty, and pious feeling that runs through the whole of the article may perhaps acquire the writer the character of a "Spiritual Radical;" and it is probable that the sanctimonious defenders of the Church and its Liturgy, instead of endeavouring to overturn his arguments, will bring against us, and him, a sweeping charge of malignity. But we rejoice to think that the Public are too enlightened to be misled by such hypocritical clamour.

A time was, when the reading of the Bible in the vernacular tongue was strictly prohibited; and we doubt not the Priests of those days could adduce on occasion many cogent arguments on the mischiefs that were likely to arise from such a practice being introduced. Thus point is now yielded up; the eyes of the profane vulgar may now pry into the Scriptures without the penalty of excommunication. But here the pious protectors of the Church take their stand, and say to free enquiry on religious subjects, "Hitherto shalt thou come, (or rather, thou hast come) but no farther." Thus we are in danger of being anathematised for touching even the paring of a Bishop's nail. He who would touch tithes, deserves, it would appear, to be execrated as sacrilegious; and to question the Divine Inspiration of the Liturgy (although we are not aware that there is any Scriptural authority for it) seems to be abhorred like blasphemy. This may do for a while; but we apprehend the day will come when the public institutions of Christianity will be reckoned as fair an object of rational discussion and enquiry, as any other; and locking up religious knowledge within the pale of a dead language, or within the walls of a Church, will be deemed equally absurd.

The Article on the Irish Government contains some remarks that help to throw additional light on the subject of Toleration. The opinions entertained by the Protestants on the Continent, regarding the treatment experienced by the Irish Catholics, will, we hope, show the Editor of the GAZETTE PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY, that he might fill his Paper with better things than letters fraught with rancorous abuse of the Church of Rome. It is certainly not very desirable that the scattered remnant of the Orange Faction in India, should be allowed, through the medium of the Government Paper, to awaken the spirit of religious proscription here that exists against the Catholics in Ireland, where "Peers, Gentlemen, and People, are retained in a state of debasement under the hypocritical pretence of religion."

It is somewhat astonishing that the Catholic Church, so much abused by VINDEX and others, should be thought by persons of no little discernment to have a considerable affinity with the English Church itself. "We know (says the Editor of the MORNING CHRONICLE) that the Catholic Church, like its near relative the High Church or prevailing party in the English Church (so near, as Dr. Geddes observes, that it is not every eye that can discriminate between them in most cases), is unfavourable to liberty." Their being both hostile to political freedom is a point of resemblance of very great importance; other points we may leave Churchmen and their Defenders to settle among themselves.

*Question of Catholic Emancipation.*—One of the most remarkable features in the question of Catholic Emancipation, is the gross duplicity, the unblushing insincerity which has characterised the conduct of Ministers throughout. However revolting this consideration may be, it still serves to explain what, to foreigners especially, must have appeared an enigma, that an Administration should have been able to stand for so many years, divided, as it professedly is, upon a subject, which, by the admission of all parties, is of the most vital importance, not only to Ireland, but to the empire at large. The state of the case is this. In consequence of the vast progress which England, in common with Europe, made during the last century in information, correct thinking, and liberal feeling, it was easily discoverable that the doctrines of exclusion and intolerance were no longer palatable to the people; the cry of 'No Popery' had lost its efficacy as a 'gathering word;' it no longer elicited a responsive echo; it died away upon the gale. It was found, on the other hand, that "of all the cants which are canted in this canting world," the cant of Liberality is the most imposing. It was judged wise, therefore, to assume the Virtue of Toleration; taking care, at the same time, to oppose to it so overpowering a mass of Bigotry, as to render it altogether nugatory; and thus enjoy the glory of it, without risking its consequence. Hence it has happened, that while Lord LONDONDERRY, in one House, has been descanting upon the blessings of our Constitution, and arguing the propriety of admitting our Catholic fellow-subjects to some participation in them; in the other, the PREMIER and the LORD CHANCELLOR have, with all the nervous irritability of hypochondria, alarmed their hearers with the most appalling pictures of the eruptions of the wild Irish, and burnings at Smithfield. In this collision of sentiment, Ireland has been carelessly abandoned to its hapless fate, the victim of the most unfeeling, as well as tortuous policy, that ever disgraced the annals of a nation.

We have been led into these reflections by the new official changes; and a very slight examination must convince the

world, that our Ministers, in the present instance, as in the greater part of their political manœuvres in reference to Ireland for more than twenty years, have been guided by this one principle, "to keep up the name of liberality, totally divested of its spirit." Those who had been in the habit of seeing Mr. PITT constantly in a minority upon the question of the Slave Trade, were not much surprised to hear him express his inability to redeem the pledge which he had given to Ireland at the Union, by carrying the only other liberal measure that he had for years advocated. His retiring from office, however, rather staggered them, until the "trick" was made manifest, by his resuming his place, after a short absence, without one whit a greater chance of being able to keep his promise. The pledge, in short, was forgotten. It will be recollected, also, that the Marquess WELLESLEY resigned, some years ago, upon very nearly the same plea; the Noble Marquess has now returned to office, although the Catholic Question remains, as far as Ministers are concerned, precisely as it did when he retired. There is a well-known saying of the historian POLYBIUS, "that it amounts to something worse than folly, for a man to suppose, that because he shuts his own eyes, all the world must be blind." The application of the saying is not difficult.

But to proceed.—For some years after the Union, Lord LONDONDERRY opposed the Catholic Claims, upon the grounds that the time was not yet arrived, at which it would be expedient to admit them. Suddenly, he told the House, that "the time was come." People stared, rubbed their eyes, concluded they must have been asleep, while some great political event had happened to mark the precise period, while some earthquake had altered the relative position of England and Ireland. No such thing. But "the time was come" for Lord LONDONDERRY to change his mind; and those who remembered the story of a man who "tossed up" whether he should marry or drown himself, were inclined to think, that his Lordship had had recourse to the same satisfactory and very religious mode of coming to a decision upon the subject. Mr. WELLESLEY POLE, now Lord MARYBOROUGH, unwilling to be outdone by his noble countryman, resolved to change his mind also. Having therefore spoken, in one Session, with much virulence against the Catholics; he, in the next, rose and confuted his own arguments; which he did the more successfully, as it was generally admitted, that of all persons, he was the best calculated to enter into the spirit of his own speeches. Such genius was not to be neglected by the Ministers; and, consequently, after a short probation of retirement, his commutative qualities were turned to account at the Mint; where, by employing his ingenuity upon copper, instead of upon himself, he has managed to effect a very creditable coinage of Farthings.

These versatile talents, however, are not always to be met with. It therefore became necessary to find two persons to succeed Lord MARYBOROUGH in the Government of Ireland; not only to represent him in the double capacity of CHIEF SECRETARY, and CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, but likewise of the opposer and defender of the Catholics. For this purpose, Mr. PEELE, and Mr. V. FITZGERALD were fixed upon, so that whatever exertions the latter might make in favour of the Catholics, might be thwarted by the former. The public well know how Mr. PEELE performed his part. Upon the consolidation of the two Exchequers a new disposition was required. It was, therefore, so arranged, that the benevolent intentions of Mr. GRANT as Chief Secretary should be rendered ineffectual by Lord TALBOT. How fully this plan succeeded was exemplified by the circumstance that an obnoxious party toast, which had called down the Royal displeasure in a marked manner, was, a few weeks after, drank with the understood sanction of the LORD LIEUTENANT.

In the recent appointments to the Government of Ireland, the case is, indeed, reversed; but the principle remains the same. It is now determined, that whatever energy the Marquess WELLESLEY may still retain in defence of the cause of liberality, shall be completely neutralized by Mr. GOULBURN, who, though

an useful member of the administration, has never been remarkable for very extended views or liberal policy.

And to crown this neutralizing system, while Ireland is exulting at the thought of Mr. PLUNKETT's coming into office; one, who is the Champion of toleration and justice, the successor of Grattan, who (to use his own words) "has buoyancy enough to float down the stream of time;" at that very moment to see the course of a nation's joy, Mr. PEELE is introduced, the avowed Champion of Bigotry, who, not content with sticking himself on the bank of the Great Stream, would make its very current retrograde, so as to bring us back to the enlightened measures, the mild institutions, and all the other blessings of the happy era of the House of TUDOR.

*Situation of Ireland.*—We find we had augured right with respect to the new appointments. The COURIER of last night has accompanied the announcement of them with a sort of Manifesto, from which it appears that we may lay our account with any thing but what the situation of Ireland really demands.

"The Nobility and Gentry of property must, if they seek to secure peace to her distracted and nearly deserted provinces, come forward in a body, and seriously set themselves to discover and apply a remedy that shall heal the sores of the past, and prevent a recurrence of similar ones in future."

The Government is not in fault, and never has been in fault. The system of legislation pursued with the respect to Ireland is admirable, and must not be changed; the exclusion of Catholics is admirable; the Tithe system is admirable; the Revenue system is admirable; nothing in these is susceptible of melioration. But something is wrong notwithstanding, and the Nobility and Gentry must come forward in a body, and accompany the new Lord Lieutenant and Secretary on a journey of discovery to find it out. We know, however, that Catholic Emancipation is one of the remedies that must not be discovered.

"Let them (says The COURIER) instead of contending for speculative political concessions, about which the lower orders can care but little, exert themselves to increase the domestic comfort of the poor, by the adoption of an infinite variety of expedients to correct many of those evils under which it is but too true members of that class so heavily labour."

Catholic Emancipation is a speculative concession, and Protestant Ascendancy is a speculative grievance. No practical mischiefs flow from the degrading subjection of the Catholic;—

It is necessary, however, to assign some cause for the evil, and after due deliberation it has been deemed necessary to recant the notions formerly expressed respecting Absenteeship.—All the evils of Ireland result from Absentees and Middlemen—

"There must be a closer connection between Landlords and Tenants, than what has hitherto existed, and which can be best effected by a more constant residence on, or at least by a more frequent visitation of their Estates. . . . The Landed Proprietor would then be regarded by the peasantry as the father and friend of a large family, instead of being regarded (as through the medium of the middle-man system he appears) an oppressor of his people; and they, in return, would be looked upon with an eye of compassion and sympathy, and considered by the Lord of the soil as so many children, claiming at his hands kindness and indulgence, in place of being treated, through the oppression of agents, as beasts of burden doomed only to labour for their superiors, without any reciprocity of advantage to themselves." Unfortunate Ireland—this sort of insult is worse than all.—*Morning Chronicle, Dec. 12.*

*Lord Beresford.*—Marshal Lord BERESFORD, who has for some time back been seriously indisposed at Paris, we are happy to state is fast recovering.

*Romberg.*—ANDREAS ROMBERG, the celebrated composer and violin player, died lately at Saxe Gotha. He has left a widow and family nearly dependent on the precarious bounty of relatives. His age did not exceed fifty years.









*Affairs of the Greeks.*—In the *Allgemeine Zeitung* of the 29th of Nov. there is an article by a modern Greek, under the title of "Solution of the Problem of the Affair of the Greeks," in which the views of the different Powers are exposed with that acuteness which has in all times been the portion of the children of *Hellas*, and which may serve as a comment on what is now passing in the Ionian Islands:—

"The old European policy begins to display itself; its axiom is aggrandisement, by seizure of territories. We have here the theorem, that whoever favours the spoliation is a friend, and whoever prevents it an enemy. But as, in such a case, there is some difficulty in determining who is really a friend and who an enemy, to make sure of the matter, steps are taken to weaken both friend and enemy; every opportunity is taken to excite in all states discontent and disturbance internally, and distrust and treason externally, and as far as possible to involve the most formidable neighbours in distant war. Regard is always had to public opinion, and care is taken to gain over the extravagance of fanaticism, the voice of humanity, nay even pure morality, to its views."

There is, we presume, little difficulty in discovering the power more particularly aimed at in these observations.

This Greek, we suspect, sees a little more clearly than a certain Lord High Commissioner, who is reported to have piqued himself on nothing so much as his talent for outwitting Greeks. By her possession of the Ionian Islands, England had it in a great measure in her power to prevent the fall of the Ottoman Empire from being injurious to our interests and the independence of Europe. It was clear, from the commencement of the Greek disturbances, that they could only end in the destruction of the Ottoman power, that Russia would avail herself of them for her aggrandisement, and that the only way to prevent the whole of European Turkey falling into her hands, was to aid the Greeks in forming themselves into an Independent State. It was evident that no assistance which we could give the Turks would ever enable them to defend themselves successfully against Russia and the Greeks at the same time.—Ministers seem, however, to have thought otherwise; and having to make their choice between the Turks and the Greeks, they clung to the former with a bold disregard of ordinary prudence, and the public opinion of Europe.

Russia was rejoiced beyond measure to see how admirably we were seconding her views. The press of those States of Europe more immediately connected with her Sovereign by relationship, gave loud vent to accusations against the monstrous inhumanity of England, and the inhabitants of the Ionian Islands required little encouragement to fly in the face of our authority. We have lost the confidence of the Greeks, without being able to assist the Turks; and Russia may now take quiet possession of as much of the Ottoman dominions as she pleases.

Lord STRANGFORD'S ambition appears to have been fired with the idea of becoming a Turkish reformer. The failure of Baron de TOTT, and so many other clever men, to effect any thing with these barbarians, seems only to have inspired his Lordship with fresh ardour. Diplomacy, it would appear, has not yet been able to extinguish the enthusiasm of the Poet. We should like to see an account of the interview between his Lordship and the GRAND SEIGNIOR, when the important scheme for regenerating the Turks was first submitted to the latter. It must have been exceedingly amusing.

We hear less now from THE COURIER of the honour done by the GRAND SEIGNIOR to our Ambassador; but in return we hear of the ambitious designs of Russia. The other day only we were positively to have no war, and now we are told, with "all the pre-disposing causes on the part of Russia to draw the sword, the first accidental encounter between two foraging parties, would be a more than sufficient pretext for doing so." The repeated assurances of THE COURIER, by authority, that there would be no war, are now forgotten by himself; and he would, no doubt, be glad that we should also forget them. We are very much mistaken if the disturbances will be long confined to Turkey,

The proceedings in the Secret Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, which we were enabled to give yesterday, betray distinctly enough the irritation to which the Austrian occupation of Piedmont has given rise in France. If Louis XVIII. would, it is evident the nation will not, allow her old enemy to occupy this position long. We may, therefore, calculate on interesting proceedings in Italy before much time passes away.—*Morning Chronicle*.

*Captain Rock.*—We have just heard from the best authority that the Russian Leader of the Irish Rebels, who is styled *Captain Rock*, has addressed a letter to the LORD LIEUTENANT, stating, that for every one of his gang that suffered the sentence of the law, he would kill ten persons wherever he should find them.

*Fascination of Snakes.*—It is asserted by some that snakes occasionally exert their powers of fascination upon human beings, and I see no reason to doubt the truth of this. An old Dutch woman, who lives at the Twelve-mile Creek, in the Niagara district, sometimes gives a minute account of the manner in which she was charmed by a serpent; and a farmer told me that a similar circumstance once occurred to his daughter. It was on a warm summer day that she was sent to spread wet clothes upon some shrubbery near the house. Her mother conceived that she remained longer than was necessary, and seeing her stand unoccupied at some distance, she called to her several times, but no answer was returned. On approaching, she found her daughter pale, motionless, and fixed in an erect posture. The sweat rolled down her brow, and her hands were clenched convulsively. A large rattlesnake lay on a log opposite the girl, waving his head from side to side, and kept his eyes stedfastly fastened upon her. The mother instantly struck him with a stick, and the moment he made off the girl recovered herself and burst into tears, but was for some time so weak and agitated, that she could not walk home.—*From Sketches in Upper Canada*.

*Conversions.*—The *Lausanne Gazette* of the 11th contains the following article:—"The Government of Thurgovia has enacted a remarkable law on the subject of converts. No change of religion can take place without the permission of the Government. Any ecclesiastic who receives an application for that purpose, must inform the magistracy of the place to which the applicant belongs, who is then summoned before his own pastor. If he persist, he loses all his rights in the commune which he abandons, and must acquire new privileges in that of the confession he chooses to adopt. Every conversion in which these regulations are not observed is declared null." This article may give occasion to useful reflections on the manner in which certain persons interpret, with regard to religions different from their own, that great principle of toleration which they loudly claim for themselves. The Government of Thurgovia is a Protestant Government; and it is surely a very singular circumstance, that an inhabitant should be obliged to address a Protestant authority, which in matters of faith acknowledges no other rule than the reason of individuals, to ask permission to believe or not to believe this or that dogma. It is also very whimsical, that a conversion, that is to say, a change of opinion, should, like an act in the exercise of a civil right, be declared null for a defect of form. This appears to us a very pleasant chapter to be added to the great volume of human inconsistency.—*Journal des Débats*.

*An Impostor.*—On Wednesday evening last, a man, who call himself *William Terroll*, was found in a field near Spalding, with his throat cut. After surgical aid had been procured, and the wound sewed up, he said he had been robbed and his throat cut by a man who was travelling on the road with him, and whose name was Joseph Cannon. He added, that he knew him, as they had lodged together at Boston last summer. Proper Officers were immediately dispatched in different directions in search of Cannon; and on the day following he (Cannon) voluntarily came forward and proved himself to have been in a different part of the country at the time of the alleged outrage. It is now supposed that Terroll himself had been committed some depredation and that to prevent detection he committed the rash act upon his own person. He is now in custody at Spalding, and is in a fair way of recovery from his wound.

**A Sad Disappointment.**—A very curious circumstance occurred at St. Nicholas's church, Nottingham, on Saturday morning, the 8th of Dec. A young man at Mansfield had formed an attachment to a young lady at Kirlington, in that county, and the parties (whose names, from motives of delicacy, we shall not mention) were about the age of eighteen years. On account of the disparity of circumstances, the friends of the young lady were much opposed to the connexion, but the lovely fair one contrived to elude their vigilance, and on Saturday morning arrived in Nottingham, in a gig, along with her intended spouse. The banns of marriage between the parties had been regularly published in St. Nicholas's church stating them to be of that parish, and they had arrived with the holy place, and with two of his relatives had surrounded the sacred altar, when the sister of the young lady having been apprised by her brother, who had pursued the fugitives from Mansfield, discovered the place of their intended union. On this discovery, she hastened towards the residence of the Rev. Dr. Wyld, Rector of St. Nicholas's, and met that respectable clergyman on his way to the church, to tie everlasting knot. She briefly related to him the circumstances of the case, and he directed her to follow him into the church, where she stood concealed for a time behind his ample priestly vestments. The young couple were destined to have the cup of joy dashed from their lips; and it is impossible to describe the surprise and dismay which filled their minds and struggled in their bosoms, when they heard the venerable Minister, instead of commencing that service which they hoped would seal their union, begin a most severe lecture on the evil of their conduct, and conclude by ordering the young man out of church, with a threat, in case of non-compliance, of having him taken into custody. The young lady was committed to the care of her friends, who took her home almost in a state of insensibility, and the disappointment was laid so much to heart, that it was followed by violent hysterics, from which there was great difficulty in recovering her.

**Shocking Accident.**—Wednesday morning the following very melancholy circumstance occurred at a short distance from London-bridge. A large barge, heavily laden, had just passed under one of the side arches of the bridge, a current at that time running strongly down, when a small wherry, in which were two men and a boy, endeavoured to pass; unfortunately the barge ran down the boat, which, together with the unfortunate individuals on board, were out of sight for some minutes, having been driven under some large craft moored off the Tower. The boat shortly after appeared, but, melancholy to relate! every effort to recover the unfortunate persons proved abortive. Two of the persons were of the names of Helliar and Euston, and it is understood the boy is one of their sons. There can be little doubt but the strength of the current at this part of the river was the occasion of the misfortune.

**Preservation from Drowning.**—Yesterday forenoon, a few minutes past eleven o'clock, as some children were amusing themselves, immediately above the wooden-bridge in the Green, by drawing sticks out of the Clyde, which was greatly swollen by the late rains, a boy about eight or nine years of age lost his balance, tumbled into the flood, and was carried down below the bridge. James M'Nicol, one of the officers of Police, with the most undaunted courage, plunged into the torrent, seized, and supported the boy in his arms by swimming until he was relieved of his burden by James Vann, who suspended himself by one arm from a lamp post, and in that situation, partly with his other hand and partly with his legs, succeeded in rescuing the boy from his perilous situation. James M'Nicol then attempted to swim back, but the current was too strong for him to regain the situation he had leaped from, and he had nearly fallen a victim to his humanity, when Vann again periled himself, and succeeded in reaching to him the skirt of a great coat, which a gentleman lent for the purpose, and which M'Nicol held by till a rope was procured, so that he was safely landed. Medical assistance was immediately procured, and we are happy to say he is out of danger. We understand that James Vann was formerly a sailor, is now a potato-merchant in Bridgegate, and has more than once been instrumental in saving lives in the river.—*Glasgow Herald.*

**Liberal Landlords.**—The Corporation of Boston, at their rent day last week, in consequence of the low prices of agricultural produce, returned the tenants of some of their farms at the rate of 10l. 15l. and 20l. per cent. although leased.

The Rev. Kingsman Foster, of Dowsby, made an abatement of 20 per cent. on his tithes due at Michaelmas last.

The Rev. Dr. Jobson, vicar of Wisbech, has returned to his parishioners 10 per cent. on his tithes of the grass lands; and has reduced those of the arable lands 15 per cent.

At the rent audit on Saturday last, R. Gordon, Esq. M. P. returned to the tenants on his estates at Blaisdon, in Worcester-shire, 15 per cent. on the amount of their respective rents.

In all parts of the country the Clergy are benevolently reducing their tithes. The Clergy of Ireland, we hope, will profit by their example.

**Depression of Agriculture.**—Last week at Hockworthy, Devon, where an estate has been let, it became necessary to sell the live stock thereon, the superior breed of which was well known in the neighbourhood, and consisted of ninety store ewes, one hundred fat wethers, ten fat ewes, three rams, five fat heifers, four steers, and three cows, of which public sale notice had been advertised, and a number of persons fully expected to attend. But, singular to relate, the day arrived, refreshments amply provided, and the auctioneer in attendance ready to knock down the property, when not a single bidder or dealer attended, consequently not a single head of cattle could be put up or disposed of!!!

The present alarming depression of the agricultural interest is a subject which cannot fail to excite the most painful sensations in the mind of every one desirous of the welfare of the country; there is not a fair or a market which is attended but the public conversation teems with repeated instances of the very deplorable state in which the farmer and grazier is placed in consequence of this depression. It is irksome to hear some persons treat with levity the distress of the agriculturists; such observations are as unfeeling as they are foolish. Can so important a member of the body politic be hurt without the other members being affected? Surely not—the country gentlemen—the clergymen—the tradesmen—the labourer—*must* feel the effects of this distress in various ways. We are well convinced that no measure of more real national utility could be devised than one which would afford the farmer relief in his present distresses. A reduction of rent and tithes is, perhaps, the only effectual remedy, but this relief must not be longer delayed, or it will be too late to save numbers from ruin.—*Hereford Journal.*

**Extraordinary Leap.**—On Wednesday last, a horse belonging to Mr. Mawe, of Loughborough, took a hedge six feet high, which in length exceeds all leaps recorded for many years, being from hind feet to hind feet, 11 yards and 24 inches, carrying a youth 5st. 12lb.

**Christmas Plays.**—Of the Christmas plays anciently performed at this season, some remains still exist in the west of England, particularly in Cornwall; but the representation of these dramatic exhibitions is almost wholly confined to children, or very young persons. The actors are fantastically dressed, decorated with ribbands and painted paper, and have wooden swords, and all the equipage necessary to support the several characters they assume. To entertain their auditors, they learn to repeat a barbarous jargon in the form of a drama, which has been handed down from distant generations. War and love are the general topics; and *St. George and the Dragon* are always the most prominent characters. Interlude, expostulation, debate, battle, and death, are sure to find a place among this mimicry; but a physician, who is always at hand, immediately restores the dead to life. It is generally understood that these Christmas plays derived their origin from the ancient crusades; and hence the feats of chivalry, and the romantic extravagance of knight-errantry, that are still preserved in all the varied pretensions and exploits. In many places in Cornwall these Christmas plays are still kept alive; in others they are known only by report; and in all they are rapidly on the decline.—*British Press, Dec. 21.*



## Invasion of India.

## DISSERTATION ON THE PRACTICABILITY OF THE INVASION OF INDIA, BY A FRENCH OR RUSSIAN ARMY.

*From the Work of Major Macdonald Kinrle.*

The probability of an attempt being made to invade India<sup>(1)</sup> by land has of late years engrossed a considerable portion of the public attention, and as I have been led by chance or duty to visit many of the countries through which the army must necessarily pass, and have been placed in situations where I have had opportunities of acquiring much information concerning those not visited by myself, my thoughts have naturally been often turned towards this subject, and I have employed some leisure hours in committing to paper the result of these reflections.

Various are the plans said to have been suggested for the accomplishment of this bold undertaking: there appear, however, but two which offer even a distant prospect of success. The first is to follow the beaten track of Alexander and Nadir Shah, and the other to advance through Russia and Bokhara.

The idea of invading Hindostan by the Red Sea or Persian Gulf can be regarded in no other light than as chimerical by all who are in any way acquainted with the nature of those seas, and the countries adjoining them. Before an attempt of this kind could even be held in contemplation, it would be necessary for the enemy to be in quiet and full possession not only of Egypt and Syria, but of Irak Arabi, and the southern provinces of Persia. Neither the borders of the Red Sea, nor those of the Persian Gulf, afford timber or naval stores for the construction or equipment of ships, nor could materials be brought from a distance by water, or a fleet be collected without our express permission; for the mouths of both the Gulfs are so narrow that a single sloop of war is sufficient completely to blockade them at all seasons of the year. It is indeed true that the mountains of Fars abound in forests of oak; but the trees are so very small as to be unfit for the purposes of a dock-yard, and grow at a considerable distance in the interior, whence they must be transported, at an enormous expence, over stupendous rocks and frightful precipices. The coast of Abyssinia also produces small timber, but it is of a quality inferior even to that of Fars; and we consequently find that all the Persian and Arabian dows are either built in India, or with materials brought from Malabar: besides, were it even possible for an enemy to succeed in constructing a fleet with materials conveyed, at vast trouble and expence, from the interior of Syria, or the shores of the Mediterranean, or in collecting one from the merchants of Muscat, (who now, to the great detriment of the English commerce, possess numbers of the largest and finest vessels that navigate the Indian seas,) there is no harbour which could protect such a fleet from the attack of our cruisers, or if there were, certain destruction must await them the moment they put to sea. As we have therefore but little to dread from this quarter, let us now proceed to take a view of the obstacles which present themselves to the army which might attempt to penetrate into India through Asia Minor and Persia, or Russia and Bokhara.

Before an European general can tread in the footsteps of the Macedonian conqueror, or of Nadir Shah, the Persian and Turkish empires must be either overthrown, or the governments of those countries completely gained over to the interests of the invaders. The first is an undertaking which would require a very considerable period of time to accomplish; and the unsettled governments and jarring interests of the Turks and Persians render the latter equally difficult, provided we act with promptitude and vigour.

But admitting, for the sake of argument, this point to be attained, and the rulers of these countries to be induced to promote the ambitious schemes of a Napoleon, an army may be transported by three different ways from Europe into Persia. The first is by landing on the coast of Syria or Cilicia, the second by crossing the Bosphorus or Dardanelles, and advancing through Anatolia and Armenia; and the last is by navigating the Euxine from Constantinople, the Crimea, or the mouths of the Danube, to Trebisond or some other port on the shore of Mingrelia.

If the fleet which carries the army up the Mediterranean to Syria or Cilicia, be fortunate enough to escape the vigilance of our admirals,

and the army be safely disembarked at Scanderoon or Latakia, it has the choice of three roads for the prosecution of its march. The first, being that pursued by the Emperor Julian, is by crossing the Euphrates at Bir, or Membgiz; and following the course of that river to the vicinity of Bagdad. From Latakia to Aleppo is forty hours, or about one hundred and forty miles, from Aleppo to Bir is one hundred and forty-six miles, agreeable to the computation of my friend Colonel Scott. A dry and barren plain extends five hundred miles, from Bir to Bagdad, which, with the exception of a few paltry villages and cultivated spots on the banks of the Euphrates, is destitute of corn, cattle, and provisions of every kind. If it be objected that the Romans marched by this route from Antioch to Ctesiphon in little more than two months, it ought also to be remembered that they were accompanied by a fleet, abundantly supplied with every necessary from the wealthy districts of Edessa and fruitful valleys of Syria, which now, under the iron hand of the Turks, are so far from being capable of administering to the support of an army, that they scarcely yield sufficient subsistence to their own oppressed and diminished population. The banks of the Euphrates were then in a much more improved state of cultivation than they now are, and the deserted wastes of Irak Arabi were at that time covered with towns, villages, and inhabitants. On reaching Bagdad, a considerable supply of provisions might be brought down the Tigris from the lower Koordistan, but forage is extremely scarce all over this province, and a deficiency in this most essential article would be found to retard in no trifling degree the advance of an army. From Bagdad the road is open to Hamdan by the pass of Karend, and I can see nothing farther to interrupt its progress into Persia, provided the Turks, Koords, and Persians contribute all in their power towards its assistance: without their united aid and co-operation, all the horrors of famine must inevitably ensue.

The second route from Cilicia into Persia is by Orfa, the ancient Edessa, Merdir, Mosul, and the pass of Derbund in Koordistan. The direct road from Scanderoon to Orfa, in length about one hundred and forty miles, is excessively bad, but this objection may be obviated by making the circuit of the plain. At Orfa the wants of an army could not be relieved, as the principality of Osrohene, once happy and flourishing, has shared the fate of most of the provinces which have had the misfortune to become tributary to the Porte. From Orfa to Merdin is almost ninety miles, and from Merdin to Mosul, one hundred and fifty, the country intervening being desert and uncultivated, with the exception of the petty districts of Nisibin and Mount Thor. (2) From Mosul, as from Bagdad, the advance of the army must depend on the Koords and Persians, and the same fate and the same difficulties will attend it, if these people are inclined to be hostile.

The last of these routes is through Cappadocia, Diarbekr, and Armenia. From Scanderoon to Diarbekr, by Samosat and Malatia is, if I recollect right, about three hundred and forty miles. The road or rather footpath lies across the rugged and inaccessible steep slopes of Mount Taurus, at all times impassable for cannon, or indeed any wheel carriage, and frequently in the winter completely blocked up by the snow. An army will be better supplied with provisions by pursuing this route than either of the former. At Malatia and Diarbekr considerable magazines may be formed by the contributions of the pashas, but it is requisite that the expedition be undertaken in the autumn, when the corn is nearly ripe; because the stock on hand is commonly small, and if the roads, as I have already observed, are almost impassable in the winter, they are still worse in the spring from the torrents occasioned by the melting of the snow. Between Diarbekr and Arakbir, it is one hundred and twenty miles, and from Arakbir to Erzeroom one hundred; the country more mountainous, and the road equally bad, as before, especially between Diarbekr and Arakbir.

By the direct road through Asia Minor, it is sixty-three miles from Constantinople to Nicomedia, from Nicomedia to Boli two hundred and nineteen, from Boli to Amasia three hundred and seventy-one, and from Amasia to Tocat seventy, making in all seven hundred and twenty-three from the Turkish capital to Tocat, the largest city in Anatolia. Asia Minor is perhaps one of the finest countries in the world, it is blessed with a healthy and delightful climate, and the earth is fruitful and always covered with vegetation. It has however been gradually declining since the fall of the Roman Empire, and is consequently at present but thinly peopled and badly cultivated; vast tracts of land lying either waste or covered with morasses and impervious forests. But notwithstanding these circumstances the produce is considerable, and the pashas, by exerting themselves, might collect provisions sufficient to answer the demands of a large army, particularly as we have every reason to

(1) It is perhaps unnecessary to remark, that this Dissertation was written before the downfall of Napoleon and the eventful changes in Europe, which, by the aggrandizement of Russia, have endangered the safety of our eastern possessions.

(2) It is clear from Quintus Curtius, that Alexander passed the Tigris between Jezira and Mosul, where it can be forded during the summer and autumn.



conjecture that the enemy would find it much more convenient to move in small divisions than in one great body. As this march can be performed with safety only in the summer, it would be late in the season before an army from Constantinople could reach Tocat: it would consequently have to remain here or at Amasia the whole of the winter and great part of the spring. A halt for so long a period would probably exhaust the neighbouring districts; for the numerous cattle which must necessarily attend the march of an army, through a country where every thing is to be transported on the backs of horses, camels, and mules, would consume an enormous quantity of barley, straw, &c. especially at a season when the ground is covered with snow. From Tocat to Erzeroom it is about two hundred miles, the country exactly similar to that between Diarbekr and Erzeroom; that is to say, mountainous, and difficult to be passed by any number of people, but particularly so when incommoded with baggage. Refreshments of every kind would no doubt be collected in the rich and populous plain of Erzeroom. Thence to Erivan it is twelve days march for a caravan, the nature of the country and condition of the roads still the same, and from Erivan to Taurus it is fifty-three parasangs. At Taurus provisions are cheap and abundant, for Azerbaijan is the best cultivated and, at present, the most productive province in the Persian empire.

The most expeditious, convenient, and least expensive manner of conveying an army from Europe into Persia, is by embarking it at Constantinople and disembarking at Trebisonde. By this route it is said the Greek Emperor Heraclius, in his second expedition against Chosroes Parviz, transported his army in the course of seven weeks, from Constantinople to Taurus. The Black Sea is navigable for about six months in the year, and a vessel with a fair wind will sail in five or six days from the mouth of the Bosphorus to the coast of Mingrelia; it is then eight (3) or ten days march to Erzeroom: the distance between the latter and Taurus has just been mentioned.

Should it really be the intention of our European enemies to make an effort to invade India by any of the above routes, it is to be presumed that cannon, ammunition and other warlike stores would be provided by the Persians, since the transportation of such unwieldy articles over the burning plains of Arabia, the forests and morasses of Asia Minor, and the steep and rugged cliffs of Mount Taurus, Mount Caucasus, or Mount Zagros would soon be found to be an undertaking sufficient to appal even the conquerors of Marongo (4). The foundry established by General Gardanne at Ispahan would easily furnish as many field pieces as could possibly be wanted, and the forests of Ghilan would yield timber of any quantity, and of excellent quality, for the construction of the carriages, but such preparations require time and arrangement, and surely we are not so deeply in view the storm gathering around us. Granting, however, that the animosity, intrigues, and perseverance of our enemy overcome every obstacle, and that an army of thirty or forty thousand men, (for it is hardly to be supposed that less than that number could make any serious impression on our eastern territories,) were assembled and ready to commence its march on the eastern frontiers of Persia, either at Meshed, Tushish, or Yezd—to supply this army, and its followers, who, at the lowest computation, well equal if not exceed the former in number, together with the multitude of horses, mules, camels, and other beasts of burthen, absolutely necessary for the conveyance of baggage, cannon, stores and even water—to supply such a body (I repeat) with provisions and forage from Teheran to Tushish, Meshed, or Yezd, would distress, if not exhaust, the already dilapidated provinces of Persia. What is it then to expect in the further prosecution of its journey of eleven or twelve hundred miles, before it gain the banks of the Indus, over vast tracts of uninhabited deserts, in many places destitute of water, corn, pasturage, and forage? The surveys of Captains Grant, Christie, and Pottinger clearly prove it impossible for even a small caravan to penetrate to India through Mekraun or the southern parts of Kerman: the march of the army must therefore lie either through the province of Khorassan, or that of Seistan.

(3) I travelled it in seven days, but it cannot be supposed that an army can move with the celerity of a single person. The road was infamous, and lead over stupendous and rugged mountains covered with snow in the end of June.

(4) The passage of the Alps by Buonaparte, previous to the Battle of Marengo, is one of the boldest undertakings recorded in the annals of war. The French army, however, was incommoded with but very few pieces of artillery, as most of the ordnance afterwards used in the battle was taken from the Austrians after the descent of the French into Piedmont.

There are two routes through Khorassan, the first and more direct one is by Tushish and Herat to Kandahar, and the other by Meshed and Muro Shahjehan to Bulk.

That by Herat was followed by Forster, who has given an itinerary of his journey, and owing to the internal dissensions which have prevailed amongst the Afghans for some years past, the country is perhaps in a more deplorable condition now than it was in his time. From Tushish to Herat it is seventy parasangs (5) or two hundred and forty-five miles, reckoning the parasang at three miles and a half, which is the lowest computation. For the first thirty-five parasangs, the country in the immediate vicinity of the villages is tolerably cultivated, but the remaining part of the way is waste and uninhabited.

Herat, the capital of Khorassan, is a large and populous city, situated in a fine plain which produces abundance of fruit and corn. From this city to Kandahar it is one hundred and five parasangs, or three hundred and seventy miles, and the country to be passed is a vast sterile plain without wood, pasture, corn, or habitation, and in many places, destitute of fresh water. Kandahar is a wealthy and flourishing city, where fruit and provisions are cheap and abundant. (6) Hence to Cabul it is one hundred and seventy-six miles, over a country in several parts tolerably well cultivated and productive. Cabul, the capital of the Afghan empire, is larger than Kandahar, and here provisions may also be procured in considerable quantities. From Cabul to Peshawar is one hundred and eighty miles, and from the latter to Attock, is fifty miles. The vicinity (7) of Attock is the only place where the Indus (8) can be conveniently crossed; here the river is of great breadth, black, rapid, and interspersed with many islands, all of which may be easily defended.

From Meshed to Muro, Shahjehan is sixty parasangs, or about two hundred and ten miles. A considerable part of this way, is through a parched and dreary wilderness without food or fuel, and in many places destitute of water; but there are also many rich and productive districts, where forage or provisions could be procured with the assistance of the natives. Muro Shahjehan, formerly one of the largest and most magnificent cities in the east, is at present almost deserted. Here of course, there would be some difficulty in obtaining refreshments; thence to Bulk, is upwards of two hundred miles, the country being in a great degree similar to that between Meshed and Muro, and in the possession of the Tartar tribes, who are alike inimical to the Russians and Persians. A distance of nearly five hundred miles must be passed between Bulk and Peshawar, across the mountains of Bamanian, the territories intervening, being partly in the possession of the Usbeks, and partly in that of the Afghans, who equally detest the Persians.

It is not unlikely however that the army instead of advancing to Bulk, might proceed from Muro Shahjehan to Cabul. The first part of this route leads through a desert, and the remainder through a productive though mountainous country inhabited by the savage and powerful tribes of Eimanks (9) and Hazarehs. (10) They are said to possess few

(5) I usually reckon the parasang at three miles and three quarters but that every thing may be stated at the lowest rate, I have here only made it three and a half.

(6) That is to say, for the inhabitants.

(7) "The Indus, which is so widely spread in the plain, is contracted at Attock to the breadth of about three hundred yards. It becomes still narrower where it enters the hills; and at Neelaub, a town fifteen miles below Attock, it is said to be no more than a stone's throw across, but exceedingly deep and rapid. From Neelaub, it winds among bare hills to Carrabaug, where it passes through the salt range, in a deep, clear, and tranquil stream. From this to the sea, it meets with no interruption, and is no longer shut in by hills. It now runs in a southerly course, and is poured out over the plain in many channels, which meet and separate again, but seldom are found all united in one stream."—*Elphinstone's Cabul.*

(8) The Indus is fordable, I understand, at several places between Attock and Hydrabad, where it was crossed by Mahmood of Ghizni.

(9) "The country of the Eimanks is reckoned less mountainous than that of the Hazarehs; but even in it, the hills present a steep and lofty face towards Herat: the roads wind through vallies and over high ridges, and some of the forts are so inaccessible that all visitors are obliged to be drawn up with ropes by the garrison. Still the vallies are cultivated, and produce wheat, barley, and millet; and almonds, pomgranates, and barberries are found wild. The north west of the country, which is inhabited by the Jumshedeers, is more level and fertile, the hills are sloping and well wooded, the valleys rich and

towns or villages, but to reside in temporary habitations; they grow but little corn, and principally subsist on milk and flesh. By this route it is about one hundred miles to Muro al Rood, and from Muro al Rood to Cabul, about four hundred and forty.

The Seistan route is from Yez to Dizac by Bost to Kandahar, along the borders of the river Hilmund, from Yez to Dizac, a distance of three hundred and sixty miles, the country has not for centuries been passed by any European: and, if credit is to be given to the accounts of natives who have lately travelled in those parts, it is a perfect desert. Dizac, which I conjecture to be the ancient Zarang, was visited in 1810, by my friend Captain Christie, who represents it to be a considerable town, the vicinity of which produces corn in sufficient quantities to be exported to Herat. To Bost up the Hilmund, it is two hundred miles. The bank of the river, inhabited by a few wandering Pattans or Balonchee shepherds, affords firewood and pasture, but a very scanty supply of any other article. Bost, formerly a large and populous town, is now an inconsiderable place. Thence to Kandahar is one hundred and forty miles, the country comparatively speaking in a tolerable state of improvement.

It is not improbable that the army, after arriving at this place, instead of advancing to Attock and entering India by the Panjab, might endeavour to cross the Indus below Moultan, and in this manner invade the northern parts of Guzerat. This is perhaps our most vulnerable frontier, and after the passage of the Indus the nature of the country, which is flat, and abundantly supplied with provisions, offers no serious impediment to the advance of a large body of men. From Kandahar to Meerpoor, near to which position we may presume the army would endeavour to cross the river, it is about three hundred and fifty miles, and the road which caravans generally pursue leads through a flat country intersected with low hills and forests of coppice wood. This tract is inhabited by different tribes of Afgans and Balouchees,\* and the crops of wheat and barley, which are never very abundant, depend almost entirely on the periodical rains for nourishment. Large bodies have frequently marched by this route into Sindh. The Indus at Meerpoor can only be passed in boats or on rafts, and the passage would be attended with infinite difficulty, if disputed.

In the year 1791, when it was expected that a rupture would take place between England and Russia, a plan for the invasion of India was presented by the Prince de Nassau to the Empress Catherine 2d. This project is said to have been drawn up by the celebrated M. D. St. Genie, who proposes, I understand, (for I have not seen the plan,) that the army should either march down the plain of the Wolga and cross the Caspian sea, or move through Bockhara and Bulkh to the Indus. Of the many plans suggested for the invasion of Hindostan, that of crossing the Caspian and sailing up the Oxus, appears to me to be the most easy of execution. There are, however, even in this route, so many difficulties to be overcome, that much preparation would be required before it could be undertaken.

The plain of the Wolga is unhealthy in the extreme; it scarcely yields a sufficient quantity of grain for the consumption of its inhabitants, and is besides often visited by the plague. The passage of the Caspian is, at all seasons, extremely dangerous, and the badness of the harbours and the innumerable shoals which every where interrupt the navigation of that boisterous and stormy sea, preclude the use of vessels of any considerable magnitude. The Russian fleet here at present does not exceed fourteen or fifteen twenty-gun sloops, and I question if all the ships collected from the different ports of the Caspian would be found sufficient to transport an army of ten thousand men. Transports however might easily be constructed, but the principal difficulties occur when the army has gained the opposite shore. I have been informed by natives who have lately visited these countries, that the Russians bring their merchandise to a port on the eastern shore of the Caspian, named Tengiz, and

watered by the river Margus, or Moorghaub. The south of the Tynnee lands also contains wide and grassy valleys. The whole of the mountains are full of springs."—*Elphinstone's Cabul.*

(10) "The country of the Hazarehs is still more rugged than that of the Eimaiks. The sterility of the soil and the severity of the climate are equally unfavorable to husbandry; what little grain can be sown in the narrow vallies and reaped before the conclusion of the short summer, contributes to the support of the slender population; but the flesh of sheep, oxen, and horses, with cheese and other productions of flocks, are more important articles of their food."—*Elphinstone's Cabul.*

\* See Mr. Elphinstone's admirable description of Afghanistan.

thence transport it to Aral, from which it is eight day's journey (at the rate of thirty six miles a day) to Khira. I have failed however in every endeavour to gain such information as can be relied upon concerning the resources of the countries between Tengiz and Aral; but as it is inhabited by wandering tribes of Turkmans and Usbeks, we may presume that it is not rich in corn, and that the natives, who always regard with a jealous eye the encroachments of strangers, would not assist the invaders. The Oxus is navigable till within three or four days' journey of Bulkh, but previous to the embarkation of the army, boats must be constructed, and depots of provisions must be formed. To ensure, therefore, the accomplishment of this object, it is necessary that the tribes on the banks of the Oxus, and in the neighbourhood of the lake of Aral, be subdued or prevailed upon to forward the views of their enemies. These tribes are fondly attached to their own mode of life, and tenacious of liberty; they have no fixed habitations, and have no predilection for any particular spot of ground; and it is more than probable that, on finding themselves unable to arrest the progress of a large force, they would abandon their villages, if they possessed any, and move with their flocks and property beyond the reach of their enemies. The cultivation on the banks of the Oxus is confined (as I have mentioned in my description of Khorassan) to the immediate vicinity of the river, all beyond being desert and uninhabited. The supplies therefore to be procured in this quarter, although amply sufficient for the consumption of the natives, would, in my opinion, be found inadequate to the demands of an European Army. The great hordes which formerly issued from the plains of Tartary to invade the more civilized kingdoms of the south, generally carry with their flocks the means of their subsistence; each person contributed in some degree towards his own maintenance; they were not incumbered with the ponderous implements of modern war, and performed marches over deserts and cultivated tracts of country which it would be utterly impossible for European Soldiers to achieve: it is five stages from Toormooz, the place where Travellers usually quit the Oxus to Bulkh. Koondooz, two stages from the river is the first town in this route; it is the chief town of a district subject to a tribe named Kesttagaers. Thence to Bulkh the greater part of the road is through a desert country.

The advanced station of Orenburgh was fortified in 1740, and a strong garrison has ever since been maintained in it for the protection of the frontier. Hence to Bockhara it is said to be forty days' journey, (or as far as a Camel will travel from sun-rise to mid-day, or about two o'clock,) twenty days of which is through a cultivated country to the banks of the Iaxartes, and the remainder over an uncultivated and desert (11) country to Bockhara. This space is subject to the tribes of Nagus Tartars and Tandjits, who detest the Russians, and whose desultory mode of warfare is better adapted than any other for the defence of their dominions. Before, therefore, the Russians can invade us from this quarter, the power of the Tartars must be broken, and this can only be done by advancing progressively, and gradually organizing their conquests. This is indeed the only manner in which, in my opinion, India can ever be invaded with a prospect of success; but I suspect that the Russians are by no means desirous of extending their empire in this quarter; (12) it is already too unwieldy, and may probably, ere long, crumble into pieces from its own accumulated weight. Shah Hyder of Bockhara may be ranked with the most powerful Princes of the East; he can bring, it is said, an Army of a hundred thousand horse into the field, and consequently he could prove equally formidable to the Russians as an enemy, or useful to them as an Ally. Ambition and love of plunder might probably incline him to join the invading army; but still I think that the jealousy and dread which all the neighbouring princes entertain of the encroachments of the Russians would prove more powerful than even of the passions avarice or ambition. Bockhara is a city, two days journey from the Oxus, said to contain about eighty thousand inhabitants.

It may be requisite to point out to the reader the exceeding difficulty of supplying a numerous army with food, clothing and other necessities, even in the enlightened states of Europe, where this most essential part of the science of war has attained so high a degree of perfection. And when we reflect further upon the casualties to which an army is exposed, even in its native soil and climate, where, by the establishment of hospitals, every care is taken of the sick and wounded; and consider how often the operations of the most skilful general are retarded, opportunities lost, and the best concerted plans entirely thwarted merely

(11) The merchants of Bockhara, who trade with the Russians generally pass the desert in the Winter, that they may have the benefit of snow water.

(12) The views of the Court of St. Petersburg are rather, I imagine, turned towards Asia Minor than India.



from a deficiency of those articles, without which, it is impossible for an army to keep the field,—may not the fate of that force be easily predicted which was to march from Constantinople to Delhi, a distance of upwards of three thousand miles, through countries thinly peopled and badly cultivated, deficient in almost every necessary, to which an European has been accustomed, varying as much in the climate as in the language and manners of their savage inhabitants; over Swamps and Morasses, where pestiferous exhalations are continually rising, over lofty and almost inaccessible mountains covered with eternal snow, or dry and sultry deserts, destitute of wholesome water, and exposed to the scorching rays of an Asiatic sun?

It is the opinion of many who are well acquainted with the nature of these countries that, if an army of fifty thousand men were to attempt this expedition, not ten thousand of that number, with every assistance which they could receive from the Turks and Persians, could reach the banks of the Indus. When the French army landed in Egypt, it amounted to forty thousand men; it was there hardly two years, and notwithstanding that it was abundantly supplied with provisions, and comfortably lodged in houses, out of this number but eighteen thousand returned to France! With the exception of the invasions of Syria and upper Egypt, the fatigues it had had to undergo, were comparatively trifling, and to these short expeditions their principal loss was to be attributed. If the hardships and dangers be as great as I have endeavoured to shew they are, when aided by the Turks and Persians, what would be the sufferings of the army if opposed? and that it will meet with opposition I think can hardly admit of a doubt. The greatest portion of Asia Minor and Armenia is under the rule of a number of powerful pashas, who are but nominally dependent on the Porte, the mandates of which they not unfrequently treat with derision and contempt.

Like the Persian chiefs they are divided in their interests; jealous of and hostile to each other, and never act in concert, but in the prosecution of a religious war, or with a prospect of enriching themselves. Is it then to be credited that any Christian power would be enabled by mere intrigue to persuade these men, who are seldom blind to their own concerns, to forget their private animosities, as well as their general antipathy to Europeans, and to exhaust their states and impoverish themselves by making one common cause with a nation, which their religion teaches them to hate and their experience to fear, in an enterprise which, if successful, would probably end in their subjection?

I am of opinion, that provided our policy be bold and decisive, we have the power of always possessing a decided influence in the Persian empire; and in the event of the court of Teheran being inclined to favour enemies, we might raise such a commotion in the state as to render it incapable of affording them any material assistance. On the other hand, the hatred which the Afghans bear to the Persians, and a due attention to their own safety and independence, would lead them to take measures to prevent the entrance of a foreign army into their territories. The Indus at Attock is two hundred and sixty yards in width, and extremely rapid; it can only be crossed in boats, or on rafts, and the great loss to be sustained under these circumstances, in attempting to force the passage of such a river in the face of a brave and skilful enemy, must be apparent to all persons conversant with military affairs. It is five hundred and seventy miles from Attock to Delhi; four other deep and rapid rivers (13) intervene, and it is to be presumed that nothing on our part would be left unexecuted to impede the progress of the invaders.

It is remarked by those who believe that Buonaparte had this expedition in agitation, that as Alexander, Timur, Mahmud, and Nadir Shah, succeeded in their respective invasions of India, they can see no reason why the attempts of the French or Russian Emperor should not be attended with an equally happy termination. A better judgment on the subject may be formed, I apprehend from studying the wars of the Romans against the Persians, and those of the Russians since the first attack of Peter the Great to the present day. The system invariably pursued by the Romans was perhaps better calculated than any other for the extension and security of their conquered states. The countries subdued were colonized by the soldiers intermarrying with the natives, who imperceptibly adopted the manners of the conquerors, and in a short time became equally interested in promoting the glory of Rome. Notwithstanding these advantages however, and that of a contiguous frontier, from which supplies and reinforcements could be drawn at pleasure, we find that the Romans could never make any lasting impression on the Persian empire. The Armies of Anthony and Julian were

(13) The passage of the Sutlege is more difficult than that of the other rivers of the Punjab.

as superior in a pitched battle to those of Artabanns and Sapor, as those of Napoleon and Alexander to the Persians of the present day; but a pitched battle was in general carefully avoided, and hunger and fatigue were, and ever will be, the most successful enemies that can be opposed to an enemy of this country. (14) The Russians, in a war which has been carried on at intervals for nearly a century, have never yet been able to establish the Araxes as their boundary; and if this system of defence has hitherto been so happily followed against the most able and experienced of the Roman and Russian generals, at so short a distance from their own frontier, it is as likely to succeed in stopping the progress of the French when upwards of one thousand miles from their country.

The Persians, in the age of the Macedonian Prince, were an enervated and degenerate race, unlike their martial successors the Parthians, or the present possessors of the kingdom, who are undoubtedly a brave and warlike people. The armies of Darius consisted of a confused and undisciplined multitude, who no sooner came in sight of the Greeks than they immediately took to flight, and as soon as the army was defeated, the inhabitants of the provinces bent their necks to the yoke. Alexander after all did not conquer India, the banks of the Thyphasis were the limits of his progress. The expedition occupied him nearly a year; and he found more difficulty in subduing Porus and his Indians than he had experienced in all his battles with Darius. The Grecian army was not incumbered with a heavy train of artillery; it moved much more lightly than a modern one can do, but we are to consider above all, that the countries which in the days of Alexander, Tamerlane, and even so late as Nadir Shah, were wealthy, populous and flourishing, are now waste and uninhabited.

In the irruptions of Timur and Nadir Shah, (for they were only irruptions, neither the one nor the other having passed beyond the gates of Delhi,) we should not forget that their soldiers were natives of the East, enured to the climate and accustomed to sleep in the open air. The march was insignificant in comparison with that of an army coming from Europe: they encountered little or no opposition: were permitted to pass the Indus and the rivers of the Punjab unmolested; and although their forces consisted of flying squadrons of horse, Timur was ten months between Samarcand and Delhi, and Nadir Shah somewhat longer from Isfahan.

There is indeed one way by which the Russians might gain powerful influence in the kingdom of Persia, if not reduce it entirely to their authority; I allude to the internal dissensions which (if we judge from experience and probabilities) must ensue on the death of the present King. (15)

By supporting the pretensions of any of the competitors to the succession, the superior skill and discipline of the Russian troops would, during this period of confusion, enable them to place their own creature on the throne; but still it would require many years and great exertion (even if we adopted no measure of precaution) before the country would be sufficiently settled and organized to allow the Russian emperor to commence so hazardous an enterprise as the invasion of India. It cannot however be denied, that the Persians would seize with avidity any proposal of this nature: the love of plunder, the example of Nadir Shah, and the idea which they have formed of the wealth and weakness of our eastern possessions would alike stimulate them to the undertaking. It is therefore from this quarter that we have, in my opinion, most to dread, and it is consequently our interest to prevent, as much as lies in our power, the introduction of a knowledge of European tactics into this kingdom. An army of Persians, disciplined and commanded by European officers, would probably be found the most formidable enemy we have yet had to encounter in the plains of Hindostan; and although the possession of that country can be but of trifling advantage to an European power which does not command a maritime communication; it might be the object of Russia to deprive us of what it considers to be one of the chief sources of our strength.

(14) The system is certainly better adapted for the defence of Persia than any other. Large bodies of Infantry, imperfectly disciplined, so far from adding to the strength of a country, will materially contribute towards its subjection, as may be exemplified in the history of the late Mahratta war, and in the defeats of Blake and Castanos.

(15) Of the forty sons of the King there is not one who does not look to the throne; nearly one half of them are governors of towns and provinces, a system which, although it may add to the immediate security of the father, presents a fearful and bloody prospect to his subjects, by enabling each of the princes hereafter to support his pretensions by force of arms; and, as he who shall eventually ascend the throne must mount it imbrued in the blood of his nine and thirty brothers, personal safety, if not ambition, will urge them to exertion.



## MISCELLANEOUS.

—461—

### Life of Man.

LIKE to the falling of a star,  
Or as the flights of eagles are,  
Or like the fresh spring's gaudy hue,  
Or silver drops of morning dew,  
Or like the wind that chafes the flood,  
Or bubbles which on water stood;—  
Even such is man; whose borrowed light  
Is straight call'd in and paid to night,  
The wind blows out, the bubble dies;  
The spring entomb'd in autumn lies;  
The dew's dried up, the star is shot,  
The flight is past, and man forgot.

FRANCIS BEAUMONT.

### The Starry Heaven.

Whene'er yon spangled Vault I see,  
And view each Planet, as it rolls,  
Fond thoughts arise, "those Orbs may be  
"The Regions of Departed Souls;"  
Of different grades of Bliss possess'd,  
And each more brilliant, as more bless'd.  
Oht!—could I ascertain the Star,  
Where Laura's Spirit loves to rest,  
Of all Heaven's orbs the brightest far,  
As she, of all Earth's Daughters best;  
That Star alone should fix my eyes,  
To trace its nightly fall, and rise!  
And oh! perhaps, from its bright Sphere,  
My sainted Laura oft might bend,  
And pitying view the pensive tear,  
With which these eyes its Course attend;  
With which this bosom yearns for bliss—  
"Tis only Heaven, where Laura is!"

New South Wales.

L. HALLORAN, D.D.

### Irish Government.

THE COURIER says, "the most vigorous measures are in progress, both by the Irish Government, and by the Ministers at home, for putting an end to the enormities, which it has been our painful task to detail during the last month. It is satisfactory to know, that the proposed remedies will be fully adequate to the evil that calls for them. The Yeomanry of Kerry and Tipperary, and all the northern counties of Ireland, have been called out."

It would no doubt be satisfactory to hear of a termination having been put to the excesses which now ravage Ireland, but as we have already more than once observed, we fear that one species of excesses is only about to be succeeded by another. We have now the excesses of misery impelled to anarchy, and we fear we shall soon have to record the excesses of faction armed with the sword.

It would, indeed, give sincere us satisfaction to hear of measures being in contemplation for the removal of the impediments to the civilization and prosperity of Ireland. But we fear the lesson which Ireland now teaches will, like all former lessons, be thrown away on Ministers. Lord Londonderry is perfectly aware of the means by which alone Ireland can be reclaimed from her present state; but what is the condition on which the happiness and prosperity of upwards of six millions of people are dependent, compared with the sweets of office?—There are men who might think that no object ought to have more importance in the eyes of a British Statesman than the salvation of this vital part of the Empire, and who would rather suffer a thousand deaths than belong to an Administration, the existence of which is nourished by Irish blood; but his Lordship, it seems, belongs to a different order of Statesmen.

Indifference, hypocrisy, and prejudice, have among them possession of the Cabinet. With some of the Members it is enough that, in former times, men reputed wise were adverse to the concession of equal rights to the Catholics, to induce them, without attending to the lessons of experience, to proscribè Catholics at all times and under all circumstances. Mr. Locke, for instance, would exclude the Catholics even a right to toleration, because he conceived that they themselves gave none. But Mr. Locke, though in many things a wise man, did not see that measures of proscription would only strengthen the power of those whom he disliked, and that a different course was necessary, not from liberality to them, but a regard to our own advantage. Numerous motives exists for adherence to a proscribed religion, which the return of equal rights would at once annihilate.

The Protestants of the Continent are lost in astonishment at the mad course pursued by our Government with regard to the Irish Catho-

lics. The language in which they often express themselves on this subject is very strong indeed. We could quote illustrious names that ought to have weight on such a subject, though they will have none with Ministers. The present Ambassador of the King of Prussia at Rome, for instance, the learned and profound Niebuhr, to whom the Republic of Letters is indebted for the discovery of several fragments of Cicero, and by far the best History of Rome which has yet appeared in any language, has, in that immortal work, which has overturned the prevailing notions respecting some most important points, pronounced, in a comparison introduced by him, the most severe condemnation of the British Ministry. Speaking of the party of ancient Rome, he says, "The justice of their claims may be compared to that of those of the Irish Catholics, consisting of Peers, Gentlemen and people, who under the hypocritical pretence of religion are retained in equal debasement, and who will as assuredly regain the rights for which they contend." If the learned Prussian knew more of our Ministry, if he knew the sort of schooling which some of them have had, in a profession in which, as Burke observed, enlarged views are seldom to be found—if he knew the gross ignorance on matters of general polity which some of them have displayed at Pitt Dinners—he would not have set all down to the account of hypocrisy, but would have made an allowance for the weakness of those "who never deviate into wisdom but by mistake."

We are no friends to Catholicism, and we have never hesitated to own that we look forward to emancipation as a means of advantage to Protestantism. We are not blind to the connection between Catholicism and civil despotism. We see every where on the Continent the renegades from popular principles, taking refuge in the Catholic Church, Count Stollberg, Gentz, Frederick Schlegel, Pilat, Werner, and a long list of other names, concluding with the notorious Haller, have anathematized the Protestant Church, as friendly to human liberty, and coupled religion with political conversion. We are speaking of the spirit and tendency of Catholicism, and not of Catholics, for though we know that the Catholic Church, like its near relative the High Church, or prevailing party in the English Church (so near, as Dr. Geddes observes, that it is not every eye that can discriminate between them, in most cases), is unfavourable to liberty: we know also, that many Catholics are enabled to escape its influence. It is chiefly among the lower orders that its mischievous effects are seen. There is little difference between the upper ranks of Catholics and Protestants, because the education of both is nearly the same; but unfortunately the Catholic Clergy, ever since the Reformation, have in all countries set themselves against the education of the people, and accordingly, the people in all Catholic countries, with a very few exceptions of recent date, are grossly ignorant. For our part, we can see no security for liberty and good government, independent of the education of the mass of the people. We wish to see every man the keeper of his own conscience, able to decide for himself between good and evil, without pinning his faith either to a crafty priest or a factious demagogue. The religion and morals which rest on this independent foundation, we may be certain, are the most secure.

We will not repeat the observation which has been a thousand times made, that the worldly comfort and prosperity of the people are almost always in proportion to the degree in which their religion tends to withdraw them from blind authority. The Lutherans of Germany, for instance, remark that the Calvinists are the most successful, and the Catholics least so in worldly matters. The same remark is made in Holland, where the Catholics, a numerous body, have always been in a deplorable condition. In France the Calvinists were by all accounts by far the most moral and industrious part of the population, and they have sometimes been emphatically termed the salt of the land. In Switzerland the contrast is particularly striking—the Calvinists being every where spirited and enlightened, and the Catholics plunged in the gross-est ignorance, and addicted to the most superstitious observances.

As a laborious profession has not probably allowed Mr. O'Connell the leisure to make himself acquainted with the history and condition of the Continent, we never thought it worth our while to notice several egregious errors in this respect into which he fell, in his famous Letter of the 1st of January last. When he speaks again of the toleration in the States of Austria, it may be well for him to ascertain whether any Protestant ever attained distinction at Vienna. The immortal John Muller was obliged to leave it, being unwilling to change his religion, and we observe that all the literary immigrants have regularly become Catholics. Neither is it true that the Catholic Cantons of Switzerland are all Democratic, while the Protestants are all Aristocratic. In the Democratic States there are more Calvinists than Catholics. The purely Catholic Democratic States are Schwytz, Uri, Unterwalden, and Zug, the inhabitants of which are poor shepherds, among whom there is really no room for Aristocracy. All the men whose talents have done honour to Switzerland, as Rousseau, Lavater, Bodmer, Haller, Bonnet the Bernouilles, Gessner, Muller, &c. were Protestants. We never heard of one Swiss Catholic distinguished either in science or literature.

## Late Storms and Floods.

**Tempestuous Weather.**—During the night of Monday last (Dec. 26) the weather was extremely tempestuous; and again on Tuesday forenoon the lightning was extremely vivid, attended with tremendous claps of thunder, and a very heavy fall of hail. We have heard of an elderly person who was so much alarmed as to bring on apoplexy, which terminated in death the next day; we have also been told of another person who was struck blind by the lightning, whilst passing in the street. The storm extended a good way into Hampshire.—*Reading Journal*.

Monk, who has for many years driven the Chichester mail cart, says he was never before out in such rough weather as he experienced between four and five o'clock on last Friday morning; the wind and rain were, at times, so powerful, as nearly to deprive him of respiration and sight; and it was with the utmost difficulty he could make his horse face the weather, on his passage along the coast.—*Brighton Paper*.

On Tuesday last, the 18th of Dec. the inhabitants of this city witnessed the phenomenon of a violent storm of thunder and lightning, which passed right over the town between two and three in the afternoon. The flashes were as vivid as any experienced in June, July, or August, and the thunder was correspondingly loud; at the same time the rain fell in torrents, and the wind roared as though in rivalry of the thunder. The thermometer, during this unreasonable elemental conflict, stood at 40 deg.; in the morning 43; noon 46; night 44. The storm speedily subsided, and was succeeded by an almost summer day brightness.—*Carlisle Patriot*.

On Thursday night last (Dec. 20) we were visited by a tremendous hurricane from the W. N. W., which has occasioned considerable damage in the town and neighbourhood, and at one time was so violent as to cause many of the inhabitants in the higher parts of the town to leave their beds, and seek shelter in the lower apartments of their houses. The stack of chimneys on the new Town hall, in Ker-street, yielded to the violence of the gale, and falling with a dreadful crash on the roof, carried every thing before it; and we are much concerned to state, that the paintings and ingenious machinery of the Theatre of Arts, belonging to M. Thiodon (who has been exhibiting there for some time past), were entirely destroyed: unfortunately, thus, "at one fell swoop," reducing the labour of years to a heap of rubbish. At Stonehouse, the chimney of an old house on the quay fell through the roof, and forced the floor of the room, in which a poor man, named Richard Beavis, was lying in bed, into the cellar underneath, where he was crushed to death by the rubbish. The *CYRENNE*, Captain Tozer, drove from her moorings in the Sound, but was brought up when very near the rocks on Staddon Point. The *Warchew* tender went on shore at the Dock yard, and the *LOUISA* tender, in Stonehouse Pool, but were got up without injury. We are apprehensive of hearing of great damage on the coast.—*Plymouth Chronicle*.

**Cowes, Dec. 21.**—It has blown with extreme violence during the whole of the week past, and particularly in the night time, the wind varying from the south and south-west to north-west. On Tuesday morning, at day light, a very awful storm of thunder and lightning passed over this town and neighbourhood; the lightning was very strong and vivid, and one peal of thunder was most tremendous. The ships in the Roadstead have fortunately rode out the successive gales without sustaining any very serious damages, with the exception of the transport ship *HIGHLAND LAD*, which parted a cable this morning, and has since gone into the harbour to repair some damage to the wind-las; and the ship *ANN*, Godwin, master, having fouled her anchor, was obliged to cut her cable.—*Hampshire Chronicle*.

Of all the dreadful storms that we have experienced during the last two months, that of Monday night and Tuesday morning was the most terrific. Very heavy rain fell, and at one period the storm more resembled an American tornado than the heavy gales to which we are sometimes subject in this variable climate. Towards morning the lightning was awfully grand. Indeed its rapid corruscations were more like the vivid flashes of electric clouds within the tropics than any we recollect to have observed in a northern sky. From Thomas-town we learn, that the thunder and lightning were more frightful at this town than any in the memory of the oldest inhabitant, and all our country friends, whom we happened to meet on Tuesday, spoke of the storm as terrific in every direction. We fear that great damage and loss of lives have been produced by this hurricane both by sea and land. In the neighbourhood of this city, at least one melancholy accident occurred. The house of *Fhos. Delany*, at Balynabola, between Dunbell and Dungarvan, was overthrown by the storm, and that industrious man and his daughter perished in the ruins. It was generally reported that Delany and his whole family had been destroyed, but we have reason to believe that the father and daughter were the only persons bereft of life by the afflicting casualty. The wind continues in the same foul quarter in which it has been nearly stationary for two months, and the sky is still overcast and lowering. All country labour has been suspended for some time, and the ground will not be fit for wheat-sowing until it has enjoyed several weeks of dry weather. Many fields of po-

tatoes are still undug, and we are told the crop is souring in the ground, or rotting in pits.—*Waterford Paper*.

**Floods in Westminster.**—The neighbourhood of Westminster-hall, Abingdon-street, and Millbank-street, were yesterday afternoon (Dec. 28) thrown into the greatest alarm by the unusually high rising of the spring tide, aided by floods occasioned by the late heavy rains. By three o'clock the wharves, &c. behind these streets and fronting the river were completely overflowed; the greatest difficulty, in many instances, being in the way of getting the different cattle out of the stables. The timber, straw, &c. that were susceptible of motion, on the approach of sufficient water, began to float, and the wharves thus became the scenes of confusion, that soon spread terror around the neighbourhood.

By four o'clock the currents from the Thames began to make their way into the main streets, and Millbank-street in particular, as well as Vine street, the Horseferry-road, and other outlets from it, were soon overflowed, so as to become impassable except to horses, carriages, carts, &c. Many of the old houses in this street were visited with peculiar severity, as, instead of being approachable by steps ascending, they are entered by going down one or two steps in the parlours.

The house of Mr. Blackman, the King's Arms, facing the large stone yard which belonged to the late Alderman Staines, presented an extraordinary appearance. The street in other parts is narrow; but facing Mr. Blackman's house there is a large space, which collected an immense quantity of water, and formed a sort of lake; and when the water entered Mr. Blackman's house, it rushed through with an impetuosity that no precautions could impede. The parlours, tap-room, &c. were soon several feet deep with water. The house, though its visitation was not singular, became the point of attraction, from its conspicuous situation, as well as from several boats having passed from the Horseferry stairs, and appearing in the streets, conveying the inhabitants to and from their houses, and carrying those who had no other means of passage. The extensive damage that was here inflicted, and the obstructions which were presented to all business exceed description; and as the flooding of the streets, which already displayed so appalling an appearance, continued till past five o'clock, the time of flood-tide, the situation of the inhabitants was most painful.

The impetuosity and extent of the Thames overflowing its ordinary bounds were however, still more furious up the Bank, and beyond Vauxhall-bridge. By the Millbank wharf, which is beyond the Horseferry-stairs, when so many boats came to the relief of the passengers and the inhabitants, the water rushed down into the surrounding fields and streets, Mr. Johnson's extensive premises, the market-gardens, &c. laying the whole of them under water. But even this extensive scene of devastation was surpassed by what took place between four and five o'clock, by the breaking and overflowing of the bank beyond Vauxhall-bridge: through this breakage in particular, the water hurried along with cataract fury, covering the surrounding fields, gardens, &c. Vauxhall road, down to the Sewers-bridge, approaching Putney, was laid under water to the depth of several feet, so that even horses and carriages could not pass along without being more than half under water. The surrounding scene, however, was the most afflicting that was any where to be beheld, the laying under water of the neighbourhood near the Penitentiary was injurious enough; but the devastation and calamity were most distressing that were thus conveyed into a new but rather an extensive neighbourhood, on the left of the Vauxhall road, consisting of small houses, built on low ground, and many of them of more than a sufficiently slight structure. The ground and roads about them, and leading to them, were filled with water to the depth of several feet, so that boats passed along with the greatest facility where there were not the impediments of high fences, walls, or the like. Along some of the lanes and roads the water hurried down with as much force as if it were descending from hills; and many of the inhabitants, who had already retreated from the parlours to the first floors with their children, moveable furniture, &c. became apprehensive for their personal safety. Then commenced proceedings of the most distressing nature; females, children, &c. being carried from their dwellings in boats or in men's arms, with a little ceremony and consideration as attend the efforts at raging fires to rescue endangered lives from the fury of an overwhelming element. Consternation appeared every where. Hundreds of families were all thus hurrying from their homes, apparently only anxious for the preservation of existence; and the danger in many instances to men who waded through the water so burdened was imminent, to such a depth were the places overflowed. The main road from Vauxhall was covered with boats, and horses being conveyed, or conveying away their riders, to places of safety.

Fortunately the wind was southerly; had it been northward, experienced men state that the flood must have been still more destructive and extensive.

Much damage was caused on both banks of the Thames, particularly on the Surrey side, by the high tide. In the low ground near Waterloo-bridge, the water reached to the first floors of several houses, and one house was entirely blown up by it. One man, we are sorry to learn,



lost his life, and another was conveyed to an Hospital much injured. The ground was inundated to a considerable distance on each side of the Waterloo-road.—The spectacle could only be paralleled by what takes place in Holland, when any of the dikes give way. The oldest inhabitant remembers nothing at all approaching to it.

The accounts brought yesterday from all parts of the country of the damage sustained by the incessant and heavy rains, which have now continued, more or less, during several weeks, are truly distressing.

*Windsor, Friday, Dec. 28.*—We now have here the greatest Thames flood that has been since 1809, when the great flood carried away the fifteen arch bridge near Eton. It is awful to see the country, from Maidenhead bridge to Chertsey, on each side of the Thames, all covered with water; farmers obliged to move their cattle of every kind from their homes; fields and meadows covered with water over hedges and ditches, and nothing to be seen but the tops of the trees; the lower part of Windsor Little Park is all covered. In Eton many of the houses are flooded; in the shops the water is up to the counters; there are carts and boats to take the passengers to and from the Windsor side; it is up to the Swan Inn, every horse of which is obliged to be removed; in many of the cellars the water is five feet deep; no carriage can come by Datchet to Windsor.

*Stamford, December 28.*—Not since the year 1807 has so great a flood been known in this part of the kingdom as was experienced on Tuesday and Wednesday last. The damage done by it, we lament to say, is extensive in the Fens, the banks of the rivers and drains having in some situations given way. On Tuesday the river Glen bank broke at a short distance from Guthram Cote, and in consequence the Fen is inundated from Tongue End (near Bourn) to Pinchbeck-six-houses, (some distance east of Spalding). On Wednesday the turnpike-road near Spalding toll-bar was overflowed by the river Welland, a tunnel having blown up. The whole country was in great alarm, and numbers of men were employed in what is provincially called *cradging* (strengthening banks with hurdles, stakes, &c.), and endeavouring to stop the progress of the waters. From the fine weather which has prevailed since, we hope that our next week's account of the loss sustained will not be so afflicting as at one time there was reason to apprehend. In some situations sheep have perished, notwithstanding the utmost efforts of the owners to extricate them, but from present information we trust that the sufferers in this way will not prove to be many.

Even in the higher districts of country, the inundation from the heavy rain of Monday (which continued through the whole of that night) has been very great. In the neighbourhood of Uppingham several sheep have been lost from the sudden rising of rivulets. At the ancient post-town of Caxton, ten miles south of Huntingdon, on the great North road, the flood was so great that it was found impossible to drive the York mail-coach from London through it on Tuesday morning. At one time the water was five feet deep on the road. The mail was in consequence detained at Caxton for seven hours, and did not reach Stamford till one o'clock in the day. On the route of the Glasgow mail-coach also the flood was very high, and the inhabitants of several villages on the roads in Hertfordshire and Huntingdonshire sat up all night in great alarm, the waters running through their houses; but this mail-coach was not much delayed, reaching Stamford by seven o'clock in the morning. At Wansford, the river Nene was so much swollen as to run through the gateway of the great posting-house, the Haycock Inn, where a boat was navigated, and horses for carriages were obliged to be changed up the fields, at a distance.—Peterborough was inundated in Broad Bridge-street, to a point which the water, it is said, had not reached for twenty-seven years before: at that time the flood was loaded with ice, which carried away many bridges; on the present occasion, comparatively no damage has been done.

*Shrewsbury, December 28.*—Long-continued rains, and the melting of snows which had fallen in Wales, have caused the rivers to inundate the roads and land situate near their margins. Houses in the suburbs of this town were inundated by the river Severn, on Monday; and the water having deluged the Ateham road a considerable depth, the London coaches into this town were led forward by men on horseback with lanterns. Travelling has been impeded in many parts of the country. The Bristol and Worcester mails had not arrived in Birmingham yesterday in time to have their letters forwarded by the Shrewsbury and Holy-head mails; and the Manchester coaches have not arrived here since Sunday: the Hero, which travels through Whitechurch, Northwich, &c. to Manchester, left the Britannia Inn, in this town, on Sunday, and arrived in Manchester in safety, but the coachman was drowned. In crossing the river, near Nantwich, he took the proper precaution of riding a saddle horse, and thus preceded his coach; but the leaders were startled, and the unfortunate man was thrown, and swept away by the torrent.—He was much respected for his civility and caution as a driver.

During the violent gale of Thursday night the malt-house of Mr. Beaven, on Steeple Ashton common, was blown down, and the roof literally carried off. One of the men was at work at the time of the accident; who, strange to tell, received no injury!—In the same gate a wall at Melksham Spa was blown down; much damage was done in the neighbourhood, as windows blown in, trees torn up, &c. A temporary theatre at Trowbridge, belonging to a company of itinerant comedians, was blown down, to the no small alarm of the Thespians!

The flood at Frome on Sunday morning last, occasioned by the tremendous storm of the preceding evening, was higher than any that has been known in that town for nearly 60 years. The damage sustained amounts to several thousand pounds.

Fourteen sheep and three cows were lost on Monday at Road, in consequence of the flood.

A very high flood on Tuesday, inundated all the low lands near Lewes. The water has not been known to be so high at Uckfield and other places for many years.

There has not been a higher flood at Arundel than at present, since the great one that extended its sweeping havoc to Chichester.

At Bramber, the inhabitants, in consequence of the flood being nearly breast high on the ground-floors of their houses, are obliged to live in the upper stories.

In consequence of the delay of the Edinburgh mail from floods in Huntingdonshire, the London mail via Newark, did not reach Lincoln on Tuesday till nearly nine o'clock at night (eight hours after time.)

### Somfredevi.

How hard the lot of an ill-fated nation,  
Unblest with Bible lore and education,  
Where reading is a part of the Belles Lettres,  
And writing only practised by folk's betters,  
Where spelling, or by custom, or by rule,  
Is rarely taught, more rarely learnt, at school.

In that brown office, where the crowded clerk,  
Sorts out his million letters in the dark,  
Sighing for comfort, and the promised land,  
That spacious Canaan in St. Martin's Grand,  
Many a lover's tender acrawl is read,  
And the soft intercourse is onward sped,  
But one there came, with such obscure address,  
For whom intended, not a clerk could guess;  
With many a flourish, one long word began,  
And thus the dubious superscription ran:

#### "SOMFREDEVI."

At length one scribe, more sapient than his cronies,  
Declared the letter must be old Belzoni's,  
And that the hidden term, they might infer,  
Egyptian was for Resurrectioner.  
In vain Belzoni for a fortnight conn'd it,  
So sent it to a friend, a learned Pandit,  
Who finding he could not make Sanscrit of it,  
Gave it a true believer in the Prophet:  
He, a devout, religious sort of man,  
Found no such sentence in the whole Koran;  
But, dreaming only of Rebellion's work,  
(Being a most aristocratic Turk),  
Sent it to Sidmouth's Office for inspection.  
Who saw in every syllable defection,  
And doubted not (of course with ample reason).  
Being illegible, it must be treason.  
The seal was broken, and the contents were  
In pure Italian:—spoke of factious air,  
Of strong affinities—of combination,  
Fusion—explosion—and precipitation.  
A Council sat on't—Eldon, press'd to speak,  
Said he would give his judgment Monday week,  
Sidmouth, alarm'd exclaim'd, "Rebellion here I see,  
Perhaps a second Cato-street conspiracy!  
Oh cruel fate! in this ungrateful nation,  
The post of safety is a private station;  
I will, before the Radicals begin a stir,  
Retire in time—become a half-pay Minister—  
Grow my own cabbages—enclose my common—  
And settle down into a mere old woman,"  
The deed was done; but Sidmouth cried peccari;  
The word was read at length—"Sir Humphrey Davy"



**The Sigh and Tear of Pity.**

The vivid ray is gay and bright,  
That Beauty's laughing eye discloses,  
And seems her blooming cheek to light,  
Like sun-beams on a bed of roses:  
But, ah! that eye more lovely seems,  
When glistening at Sorrow's ditty,  
And when its soft and liquid beams,  
Float in the melting Tear of Pity.

Oh! silvery sweet are Beauty's notes,  
When to the wondering throng she pours them,  
When every sound on ether floats,  
And fond and trembling Love adores them;  
But, ah! that voice more sweetness owes,  
When mingling with Affliction's ditty,  
And when its low and faltering tones,  
Thrill through the murmured Sigh of Pity.

Oh! more than dulcet is the Sigh,  
That strives to soothe another's sadness,  
Oh! more than brilliant is the eye,  
That lights another's path with gladness;  
The siren song, the dark eye's blaze,  
May win the lover's minstrel-ditty,  
But angel strains the soul shall praise,  
That wakes the Sigh and Tear of Pity.

VIOLA.

**Uniform Church of England Liturgy.**

**GRAND METROPOLITAN TEMPLE FOR CHRISTIAN AND APOSTOLIC WORSHIP.**

"My mind was wholly unbiassed: I had no predilection for, no prejudice against, the Church of England; but a sincere regard for the Church of Christ."—Bp. Watson.

*To my Fellow Christians within the Pale of the English Church.*

For, that not a few such Churchmen, clerical as well as lay, as are above described by the illustrious Prelate, may yet be found among a host of men, who, generally speaking, with the inspired word of God ever and anon in their mouths, have always, still alas! mere human note and comment at their hearts, Charity forbids me to doubt. With your leave, a word or two with you, my brethren. The Church of England rests upon her articles. The Church of Christ rest on the writings of the Evangelists and Apostles. Well! the Church of Christ, worshipped God the Father of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; through him, or in his name, the Church of England worships a Trinity in Unity. Now, without going into the question, why the two Churches apparently so widely differ on the fundamental point of worship; may I not presume to ask, why they should not as palpably agree, or be even identified? Why in their creed alike, so upon the face unlike in the form and language of their religious service? The necessity of such an improvement upon the original Christian nomenclature will scarcely be pleaded by any of us, who admit, and who of us does not admit, that the Church, the Church I mean, not of England, but of Christ, did well enough without a phrase or term peculiar to that nomenclature? The expediency of the innovation can be the only question. It will be said probably, that the Church of Rome adopted it before us; and that to revert per saltum, "not almost only but altogether" to the very mode and phraseology of the Apostolic age, would be to run quite wild as Protestants. Now not to dispute the policy of such a plea, does not its spirit however savour somewhat more of worldly wisdom, than of "that wisdom which is from above?" Glory, as we justly might, in the name of Protestant, what yet in good truth is Protestantism to any bona fide Protestant Christian, but in as far Protestantism can be proved to be Apostolical Christianity? Is it really of such mighty moment to any Protestant, *i. e.* bible only, disciple at Jesus's feet, from what other form of prayer his own may deviate, or even how widely it may deviate, so it be found in strict as exclusive unison with the precepts of Christ, and the practice of his Apostles? If to attain the sobermindedness of Christians, we should haply even run wild as Protestants, shall we so unpardonably disgrace ourselves as Members of a "pure and Apostolical" Church of England?—But how shall we maintain our faith, it may possibly be asked, without maintaining a correspondent worship?—An Apostolical Liturgy, in other words, would be fatal to an Apostolical Creed. An odd conclusion this, surely! Nay, can we record it without smiling in our sleeves? Do we mean seriously to aver that John and Paul believed as orthodox, but prayed as heretics?—O, but our religious service, it will be urged, would become at once Unitarian by the change! Aye, here's the rub, I verily believe, at last. And yet again, may I not fairly ask in reply, why all this anxiety rather about

names than things? What matters it to a true Son of the Church, what else his devotion may be, so it be indisputably Christian, Apostolically Christian? To deal, however, with the objection better than it deserves—What then? was Apostolic worship indeed, Unitarian worship? Is almost the whole of our Morning Service, a Unitarian Service? Were prayer to God in the name of his Son, as an all prevailing and ever present Co-Suitor and Intercessor for us at the throne of grace and mercy, Unitarian Prayer? Were prayer to God by all his Son had done and suffered, for our redemption in the very words of our Litany, Unitarian Prayer. Yet not one syllable or token of devotion such as this, need the most punctilious or consistent observation of the Apostolic Canon exclude. But to probe the objection a little deeper still. When reciting the very words of our blessed Saviour, we, of course, kneel also in his name before our "Father, who is in Heaven," are we praying as Unitarians? Was the Son of God conscious of being a mere man, when he all but interdicted his disciples, and that in the most express and peremptory terms, any future petition to himself as a work of supererogation, if not of impropriety on any other account, telling them that they had only at once to ask the Father in his name? Must St. Paul have been a believer in the simple humanity of the Saviour of the World, because, forsooth (indulged as he was, at the period to which that Saviour's inhibition referred, with occasional personal intercourse with him in vision), with the exception of prayer to Christ under such circumstances on the pressing occasion of a corporeal infirmity, we have no evidence of his having deviated from his own Catholic rule of only "doing all," praying to and praising God in his all efficacious name? Are we verily to conclude, that because St. John, referring obviously to the season of prayer, recognizes in "Jesus Christ the righteous" only "an advocate," not a compeer with him who forgiveth sin, a mercy-seat at the footstool of the throne of pardon, on which our petitions are to be laid in their way thither, that therefore St. John denied the divinity of his Master, or negated his privacy to the devout aspirations of his disciples? Must St. Paul be presumed to have been satisfied, indeed, in his own mind, that the son of God was the son of Joseph, because he does not appear to have ever prostrated himself before him under the application of "God the Son;" or that the Holy Spirit was an attribute, because he does not appear to have worshipped any such Holy Spirit under the title of "God the Holy Ghost?" Must the Apostles, one and all, have been apostates from the true doctrine of the Unity of the Supreme Being, if it cannot be proved or made probable that they occasionally addressed their latria to a three-one God under the name of the Trinity, or some synonymous denomination? Such logic as this might swell the ranks of the Unitarians with some names that do not, in one opinion, belong to them, but it would apologise for our will-worship at a cost which would leave us in possession of but a Cadmean victory over our antagonists. O, away then instantly and for ever with this bugbear of Unitarianism. The worship of the Church of Christ can never be a heterodox model for the worship of a "pure and Apostolical" Church of England. And the worship of the one Church "he that runs may read" as legibly and as infallibly in the writings of the Evangelists and Apostles, as he can that of the other in her Liturgy and Articles. As Christian Churchman, can we doubt with which of the two Churches, in the case of discrepancy, the assimilation should begin or end? Then, as we would admire the one, let it be corrected, scrupulously corrected, by the other. Many, aye, very many of us, I will venture to assert, join in heart with the projected Reformation. Are there none of us who will dare too to join in hand? O, my brethren, 'twere a noble example of Christian self-devotion to set Protestant Christendom, and would immortalize our nation and our age. An only sanctuary, in which the Apostles, were they to rise again, would not find a religious service strange to their ears, or not ample enough for their faith, rearing its colossal mass above every other in the metropolis of Great Britain, were a glorious national trophy to the revival of primitive Christianity. How proud our triumph that its first stone was laid by Members of the Church of England! As an unworthy individual of a religious establishment that has boasted such never-dying names as those of Paley and Watson, and Law, and Shipley, and Clarke, and Hoadley, and Locke, and Newton, let me now proffer my poor mite of one thousand pounds towards the erection of such a structure, pledging the association of my humble name whenever it shall be justifiably called for, but subscribing myself at present.

**A WOULD-BE MEMBER OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN THE CHURCH OF ENGLAND.**

P. S. It is a curious circumstance that these anomalies in our Liturgy deform only our ordinary public worship. Trinitarians as we profess ourselves (for though disciples of Christ, we too, as well as our opponents, must have our nickname instead of our only proper and truly honourable appellation), in our domestic prayers we are almost unanimously content with the Apostolic mode and terms of address. It is only on the Sabbath that the Athanasian Vocabulary and arrangements are mixed up with the Christian. Do we then pray to God, or praise him as orthodox members of his Church on one day only in the week?

# ASIATIC DEPARTMENT.

—465—

## Servants of Government.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

I have read with real pleasure, equally with many others, your selection of an article published by authority of the Ceylon Government, in your Paper of this morning; it speaks the sentiments of an enlightened and generous Government, to a class of most industrious and POORLY PAID Servants.

The unconvenanted Servants of this Government, how differently situated! When worn out by toil, and when of no further use to themselves or to their families, a scanty pittance may be obtained for the few remaining days of their lives; but how stands the widow and orphan? why they are thrown destitute on an unfeeling world. You may say, the father may have some property, then he is no object for a pension, for the Government of India gives no pension to him who may have acquired by dint of saving a few Rupees, but he who shall have sported away his all is an ELIGIBLE object; these are contradictions which I leave to wiser heads to explain away.

It will be admitted by all the Authorities in this Country, I am confident, that the poor Bengal Clerks in Public Offices have great claims on the Indian Government; and the Noble Chief who holds the British sway of the East could not leave a more lasting blessing than that of the adoption of a similar Regulation to that published by you this-morning; the poor Clerk the Widow, and Orphan would stretch their hands to Heaven, and bless the name of HASTINGS.

A PUBLIC ASSISTANT.

## Letter from Pertaubghur.

Camp Somunah, May 18, 1822.—On the 3d instant, four Companies of Native Infantry and a Brigade of six-pounders were ordered to march from Pertaubghur to endeavour to apprehend a Tullukdar named Pirthee Paul Sing, who had risen in arms against the Aumil Meer Golaum Hussain, and refused to pay the amount of the present year's rent, upwards of 60,000 Rupees. The Rebel had met with a small party of the Aumil's people under Causim Allie near Dhalapore, which he attacked, and killed their unfortunate leader. The Daroga at Budlapore (a place in the Jaunpore district) was with Causim Allie, and had a Horse killed under him after committing many depredations. Hearing of the march of the Company's Troops from Pertaubghur he fled with his fellows into the Company's Provinces, where the Company's Troops had not the power given them to follow him, but were directed to wait permission from the Magistrates of the adjoining Zillahs. After being allowed to remain unmolested for many days, a Detachment of two Squadrons, two Companies of Infantry and a Brigade of six-pounders were sent from Benares after him. Pirthee Paul got information of their approach, and immediately crossed the Ganges and went over to Brindachel (a Hindoo place of worship near Mirzapore) taking with him between 2 and 300 followers, the Magistrate of Mirzapore heard of his being at Brindachel, and went with 200 Sepoys to seize him, but his approach was soon learnt by Pirthee Paul, and he immediately took to flight. Accounts were received of him, last night, which left him at a place called Ramgyah, four or five koss from Brindachel on the range of Hills. The Troops from Benares, on arriving at Jemerecat, were joined by those from Pertaubghur, and there received intelligence of another Zemindar, Mahdoo Sing having entered the Provinces near Azimghur with six hundred matchlocks, and burnt five Villages. A Squadron of Cavalry, two Companies of Infantry, and a Brigade of six pounders were ordered to march after Mahdoo Sing, leaving a Squadron of Cavalry and two Companies of Infantry at Badshapoor to watch Pirthee Paul; the remainder of the Troops were sent back to assist the Aumil's Naib to make arrangements for the settlement of the lands lately held by Pirthee Paul Sing. The latter Troops have little chance of getting into Cantonments before the rains, as it will take some time to settle the country; the Villages at pre-

sent are all deserted, and the Ryots must be well persuaded that there is no chance of Perthee Paul's returning amongst them before they will be induced to come back.

## Spinsters.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

As a Subscriber and well-wisher to your excellent and independent JOURNAL, and in the absence of all News from Home, I beg leave to send you the following account of a Secret Meeting of Spinsters, held at Spinspoor, the proceedings of which were communicated to me, on my passing through the Station to join my Corps, by my Friend Miss Quiz. Should you think it worthy of a place in the columns of your very entertaining and instructive Paper, you will oblige me by inserting it.

In consequence of a letter in your JOURNAL of the 15th instant, signed "CÆLEBS," the Spinsters at the above place determined to call a Secret Meeting together, to inquire which of the young Ladies had said there was not, "any one Eligible at the Station," being confident in their own minds that the insinuation originated only in the frenzied brain of Mr. CÆLEBS, who they conceived must have been sorely annoyed, nay bitterly smarting under the lash of some well merited *Juweb*. At this assembling of some of the

"Most beautiful flowers

"That ever bloomed in Eden's bowers"

It was proved to a demonstration that the writer had been guilty of a most infamous and scandalous Libel on them, as Individuals and as a collective Body.

I am sorry my Fair Informist could not recollect the able speeches of the young Ladies, therefore suffice to say it was proposed by one of them and agreed to *nem. con.* that they were to use their utmost exertions, in concert with some of their most intimate gallants, to try and find out the writer, and should their endeavours prove successful, they were to give him as good a tossing in a blanket as ever was experienced by the renowned protégé of Don Quixote, the famous Sancho Panza, a most merciful sentence truly for a man convicted of such a shocking and dangerous Libel, a much milder one than you would have had, I imagine, if the "Twelve Common Tradesmen" of Calcutta had not brought you off with flying colours;—but to the subject of the Meeting.

With all due deference to the opinions of the Spinsters in Calcutta, the dear Creatures of Spinspoor, to be more explicit on the point of Eligibility, came to the determination of adding the undermentioned Resolutions, to those already passed by their numerous pretty Sisters at the Presidency.

Be it enacted as follows:

1st. To use the old adage "Time and Tide wait for no man;" and seeing no feasibility of hooking *Residents*, *Judges*, *Collectors*, or even *Registers*, it is now resolved that in addition to the Resolutions passed by the Meeting of Spinsters in Calcutta, all *Brevet Captains* and *Subalterns* of 12 years standing, who can come down with *Ten Thousand Siccas*, be promoted to the rank of Eligibility.

2dly. We condescend to notice *all* Subalterns, with *Staff Appointments*, who may be under twelve years standing, provided they can settle *Twenty Thousand* Rupees upon us.

3dly. and lastly. All Officers of whatever rank about to proceed to England on *Half-pay*, are not to consider themselves included in the above Resolutions.

I fear I have already trespassed too much, both on your time and room, and must now conclude, Dear Sir, by assuring you, I am

In Camp, not many marches } Your Well-wisher,  
from Spinspoor, May 1822. } A SUBSCRIBER.

\* I take these lines from my Friend Lieutenant Wright, when he describes NORMAN, speaking of Eden.



# Matrimony.

"LOOK BEFORE YOU LEAP."—Old Saying.

SIR, To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

I have observed in your excellent and amusing Paper, certain disquisitions upon the subject of Matrimony; and enquiries, as to who are, and who are not of that class of people termed Eligibles. The Pros, and Cons, for old Folks and young Folks, refraining from, or for the entering into, this holy state, have been touched upon with a felicity, which does honor to the Writers' hearts, and credit to the ingenuity of their invention. I have my opinions, and conceive there is much to be said on both sides of the question, yet as I incline to one, more than to the other, I can only be charged with assuming the privilege of judging for myself, a privilege I rank of the highest importance: I have lived a few years in the world, and am somewhat initiated in its mysteries, and acquainted with the many tricks and artifices practised by both sexes, to attain their ends. That "The Sex" excels the other, in devising, contriving and executing, I have no doubt; their natural cunning sharpened by constant exercises, far exceeds a man's; this superiority is to be accounted for by his disdaining the employment of artifice, where a more ingenuous feature of character would answer the same purpose. I could, were I inclined, not only recapitulate to you the sentiments of the wisest men, who in all ages of the world have been united in their opinions of the inferiority of women, but I could point out to you innumerable instances of that confirmed inferiority, in qualifications, which serve to raise and dignify human nature; but as my professed object, is a "word of advice" to certain young gentlemen, whose planetary influence has favored them into "Eligibles." I hasten to fulfil my engagement.

The most persuasive qualification you can adduce in support of pretensions, is your being a "Civil Servant," or your holding a situation in the first ranks of the General Staff; in either of these lines, you certainly must be, to obtain the slightest chance of recognition from any fair "Expectant," to whom you may have had the honor of being introduced. Once upon a time, indeed, a young Sub, in a dashing red coat with "a bit of blue," was a bait too tempting to be resisted, but, alas! those times are past, and "The Parents and Guardians Code of Eligibility" is much shortened, and as difficult to be comprehended, as the same term, is to be understood by young Painters for the interested prudence of the young "Tits," has kept an equality of pace with the steady foresight of the "Old Ones."

What was denominated merit in old times, now-a-days has nothing to do with Matrimony in Calcutta; and who expects it should? Not I, Mr. Sir, I assure you; the blooming expectant damsels, dreaming of some old sallow withered stick of a Bengally, come out purposely to settle themselves, and if they imperiously insist upon a settlement down on the nail, or guaranteed by shares in Laudables, Tentines, or any other praiseworthy establishments, "for the securing to Widows and others, a decent maintenance," are they not perfectly in the right, and acting as thrifty housewives should?

The origin and cause of these settlements, so widely differing from the mode practised in Europe, I can trace, as having their birth in the golden age of India, i. e. in the year of grace 1770. and when very foolish old men took it into their silly old heads, to marry bouncing red-faced young girls, just arrived on a trading voyage, and who naturally conceiving their young lives were held on a somewhat better tenure than those of the old Fogies, who became their purchasers, tenaciously stuck to a *sine qua non*, settlement being made on them and their heirs, lawfully begotten.

In the second place, it is absolutely necessary that you discard every appearance of modesty, and clothe yourself only with as much impudence as you can carry, not being particular of what sort, color, or description, 'twill be sure to fit you in the opinion of the young Ladies; their taste in this respect is certainly somewhat vitiated, like depraved appetites, which are only to be pleased with a villainous compound of adulterations suf-

ficient to nauseate the taste of others content to thrive upon a more simple diet. Assurance you will find your best friend with the Fair, 'twill serve as well to impose the belief of what you really have not, as to defend any dubious point of propriety of character, which you may actually possess; and whenever brought forward and sustained with infinite audacity, will render you incalculable benefit.

Never be bashful, but always appear to be conscious of your own qualifications and importance, and never let it be perceived that you are ever at a loss for any thing. I have seen many confounded stupid fellows, who continued to attract the attention of an Expectant, in consequence of their assuming all the finished graces of impertinent familiarity, and impudent assurance, and behaving with a rude and boisterous conduct, more befitting a stable companion, than pertaining to the manners of a well-informed Gentleman.

Occasionally you may take advantage of a pause in the frequent silly and fretful changes of the life of an Expectant, and come forth with something touching upon the sentimental; but this is only to be essayed, in unison with the ridiculous imagination of the Lady in question; you must wait 'till she gives you the catch-word, and then your part commences.

If fortune has made you an Eligible, you will find, and that very quickly, that you will be sought, instead of your having to seek; and contrary to your dangle in the train of your Charmer, you will have her seeking you, through the intricate mazes of a Town Hall Assembly, a Chowringhee Play, or ducking and bowing like the handle of a pump, in a Carriage on the Course. You may, when you perceive that you have attracted notice, give yourself as many airs as you think becoming; you are permitted to do so, on the presumption, that before you are a married man, you ought to be allowed to do as you please, as subsequent to that equivocal state of bliss being entered, your right and title to the assumption, will be questioned, with a rigid, and unconciliatory strictness.

I cannot however acquiesce in the truth of this remark, particularly as far as it regards our fair Country women in India; but on this score I can only answer for myself, conceiving, I shall always have sufficient resolution to say the most disagreeable of all monosyllables,—"No."

I am, Sir, your obliged,  
ONE OF THE KNOWING ONES.

Dinapore, May 10, 1822.

Governor Macquarrie.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

SIR,

In your JOURNAL of the 25th of May, I observe a writer, under the signature of SUUM CUIQUE, indulging himself in ridiculing the Address which was presented to General Macquarrie by the Inhabitants of Sydney, on the General quitting Australia for England, after a long and arduous administration.

Having experienced much kindness from General Macquarrie when I was at New South Wales some years ago, I have read SUUM CUIQUE's strictures with regret; and I feel hurt at seeing the General's name dragged before the Indian Public when he has not an opportunity to defend himself against an anonymous writer, who, I should suppose, can not be acquainted with any of the parties alluded to in his Letter of the 18th current.

What just grounds the Apostle of Australia has for being dissatisfied with General Macquarrie's public measures, I am not able to state; but when I was in company with the Reverend Gentleman at Governor Macquarrie's house, no such dissatisfaction was apparent, on the part of Mr. Marsden. It may be possible that the Governor subsequently did not enter into the Mercantile views of the learned and Reverend Gentleman, and thereby excited his bile. I remember perfectly well that Mr. Marsden was very anxious that I should purchase some Spars from him which he had brought from New Zealand, and I thought it at the time so much out of character for an Apostle of God,



and the Senior Clergyman of the Colony, to be trafficking in Timber, that I mentioned the circumstance to some friends. Here then is a fact as stubborn and as incompatible with the character of a Clergyman as any facts which Mr. Marsden might have stated in his Printed Letters to Mr. Wilberforce.

As for the Wentworths, I should like to know what, in the name of God, they have justly to complain of.—Mr. Dure Wentworth, father of the author of the respectable Book (as Mr. Suum Cuique is pleased to stile it), has made large sums of money through the patronage of General Macquarrie, and is considered the wealthiest man in the Colony:—so much for gratitude on the part of the Wentworths.

Should Suum Cuique in Elysium Row indulge in any further remarks on the past administration of General Macquarrie, I hope some friend of the General (more equal to the task than I pretend to be) will stand forth in defence of the man, whose name, by the impartial and unbiassed part of the Inhabitants of New South Wales will, always be remembered with the utmost gratitude and veneration.

I have the honor to be, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

Balassore, May 29, 1822.

SCANDINAVIUS.

### Indigo Planters.

Sir,

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

When space admits, I shall feel obliged by your giving insertion to this Letter; and shall thank any of your numerous Correspondents, more conversant in the Law and Regulations than myself, who can and will solve the following Query:—

"An Indigo Planter gives advances to a Ryot to cultivate from 1 biggah to any quantity of Indigo. The ground is sown, the plant thrives well, the Cultivator has done his best to fulfil his agreement; another Ryot or resident in that or any other village drives or allows his Cattle to go in to the Indigo, and destroys either part, or the whole of it; on whom has the Indigo Planter a claim?"

May 25, 1822.

AN INDIGO PLANTER,

### Fees for Marrying.

Sir,

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Being of a very retired habit, I reside at a considerable distance from the tumultuous scenes of the Town. As such, I am in a certain degree unacquainted not only with the Prices Current of many articles of luxury, but with the authorized rates of the innumerable fees charged by professional men in their several and respective departments. As I have number of Females under my guardianship to dispose of in marriage, I am in the first place particularly anxious to ascertain with accuracy what is the exact established amount an individual is liable to pay for obtaining a Licence for Marrying. Any one of your numerous and learned Correspondents affording the required information, will have mine and the young Ladies' hearty thanks. At present, there is, I believe, either no fixed charge for these Hymeneal Documents, or the Fees are allowed to be charged at random; at least, I presume it is so, from the following circumstances: I had occasion to procure a Licence on my own account, and was made to pay a fee of 32 Sicca Rupees; shortly after I obtained one for a relation for which a round sum of 48 Rupees was asked and paid. Speaking one day of this difference in the charges to a friend who had accidentally called to see me in my retirement, I was heartily laughed at, and told, by the way of comfort, that some imposition had been practiced on me, for he paid only 16 Rupees. Now, Mr. Editor, these fluctuating charges are not only observed but seriously felt by persons having a limited income; and unless some measure be speedily adopted to regulate them, they may perhaps rise in time to such a height as to produce the effect of abolishing Matrimony altogether.

I am, Sir, your obedient humble Servant,

AN EREMIT.

### Selections.

*Private Secretary.*—We understand that Mr. MacNabb has been appointed Private Secretary to the Governor General, in the room of the late Mr. Chastanay.

*Fort Marlbro'.*—By letters from Fort Marlbro' of the 20th April, we learn that the party appointed by the Madras Government to proceed to the West Coast of Sumatra, for the purpose of taking the requisite observations to determine the length of the Pendulum at the Equator, had arrived at Bencoolen on the Ship MORNING STAR, and we are happy to hear that the whole of the Apparatus and Instruments were in the same state of efficiency as when they were dispatched from Madras. A vessel to convey the party to the Equator and attend them there, with a guard, materials, and masons, to build a pillar, to which to fix the Clock, with Carpenters and Provisions, had been provided for them by the Government of Bencoolen.

*West Coast of Sumatra.*—We have seen a letter from the West Coast of Sumatra of the 25th of March, giving accounts from Tappanooly of the Brig HOLY LETCHMY having been cut off at Polo Harang off Batroose, by an Arab, named Sheikh Alli, the Commander murdered, and the Cargo plundered. The Brig was brought into Tappanooly by the Gunner, and Mr. Maidman had ordered the remainder of the Cargo to be put into the hold and the hatches to be sealed. Measures had been taken to have the murderers stopped. Shaikh Alli, we understand, is the same person, who cut off the JUPITER at Reas, and murdered the Commander, and who was sent a Prisoner to Calcutta by Mr. Siddons, then Resident of Bencoolen, from whence he returned to that part of the Coast, acquitted. We understand there was a considerable sum of money in the Brig, and it is suspected that the Linguist, an Acheen man, was connected with Shaikh Alli in the murder.—*John Bull.*

*Penang, April 6, 1822.*—In reference to the report in our Gazette of the 14th Nov. last, on the subject of the attack made on the SEAFLOWER, Capt. Spiers, at one of the Islands in the Solo Seas, we feel much pleasure in submitting the following letter, which has been kindly handed to us, as connected with that circumstance, and expressive of the feelings of gratitude by the Parties concerned.

To Lieut-Colonel Farquhar, Resident, &c. &c. Singapore.

Sir,

It is with feelings of the most sincere gratitude and pleasure, that I subjoin, for your personal, the following extract from a letter just received from my friend Captain W. Spiers of the Ship SEAFLOWER; thanking you at the same time for a favour which has led to consequences so beneficial. After going into some particulars of minor importance, Captain Spiers proceeds by saying, "I went on shore at Borneo Proper, taking the precaution to leave the Ship at Sea, which I believe saved my life, as they are a most piratical horde, having cut off a Manila Brig only a few months before my arrival; the Commander of which had gone on shore with his Masters, leaving his Brig anchored at the mouth of the River; they secured him, and afterwards brought the Ship in. The Sultan wanted me to do the same thing, but I refused, and left him at 11 o'clock at night for the Ship, having received a hint from the Rajah Moodah (to whom you may recollect I had a letter from Colonel Farquhar) to make the best of my way, and although I believe it was intended to have way-laid me on the road down, I fortunately reached the Ship in safety." Thus, Sir, has your kindness in this instance been the means of not only saving a valuable Ship and Cargo, but also the life of a deserving and meritorious individual—and for which you have mine, as I am certain you will have the thanks of all the others interested.

I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient Servant,

Canton, October 1, 1821.

(Signed)

A. RITCHIE.

### CURRENT VALUE OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Remittable,.....	18	8	18	4
Non-Remittable,.....	10	8	10	0

# The Bull's Assertions.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal,

SIR,

The BULL, so very tame for some time past, having been left to himself for a very few days, now begins to put forth his horns again, and stands hugely in need of your wholesome correction. In the Paper of this-morning I find the following Editorial Paragraph :

"The SCOTSMAN is now as much quoted in Calcutta, by a certain class of politicians as *Paine's Rights of Man* was formerly in London, by another class, and for much the same reason we suppose;—They both abuse the Government and the Established Church. Tom Paine would have no Kings, the *Scotsman* would have no Bishops,—*Tous les eveques à la lanterne*. This is the old revolutionary cry of reform. Banish all Kings; hang up all Bishops."

If the BULL thinks its necessary to attack the character of the SCOTSMAN, it would be wise in doing so to endeavour to preserve some little character for itself. A reputation for strict veracity is very useful to a Public Paper; for which reason the BULL would do well not to hazard any assertion he is not prepared to prove. Of all figures of speech, whatever may be the most beautiful, Truth, I think, is the most useful. The BULL says, "The SCOTSMAN would have no Bishops: hang up all Bishops." Is the BULL prepared to prove this, either in French or English? Nay, I am not particular, and will allow him the benefit of any or all the various tongues with which he has from time to besprinkled his pages;—if he will but prove satisfactorily, by quotation or logical inference, in Greek, Latin, Arabic, Persian, Italian, or English, that the SCOTSMAN "would have no Bishops and wishes them all to be hanged." The character of our great Northern Luminary is not to be taken away by mere assertion: the BULL must prove it, according to the established laws of evidence admitted in such cases; or if not, he fails, at the peril of his own character for Editorial veracity.

But the BULL also insinuates that your reason for quoting the SCOTSMAN is because he advocates the diabolical doctrines above ascribed to him. This is a serious accusation indeed; and should therefore either be distinctly made out, or candidly retracted. If the BULL do neither, the Public will know what dependence ought to be attached in future to its innuendoes and criminations. Granting that the BULL can establish in a satisfactory manner that the object of the SCOTSMAN is to hang all Bishops; he ought farther to show that this malicious motive shines clearly throughout his writings, so that "he who runs may read it;" so that no person can avoid perceiving it: otherwise you, possessing probably less acumen than the BULL, might not be aware of the pernicious object and tendency of this Paper, while quoting it. Unless it be proved to a moral certainty that you were acquainted with the SCOTSMAN's mischievous object, it is unjust to accuse you as an accomplice in his crime. The BULL however, does not scruple to bring this accusation against you; he makes you guilty of entering fully into the plan of hanging all Bishops; which, I believe, upon my soul, is a groundless slander upon your character, and that the BULL cannot possibly believe you to entertain any such diabolical wish or design. I verily believe that if all the slander of which the SCOTSMAN is accused were scraped together, it would not amount to half so much as the BULL has uttered against you in this single paragraph.

I am, Sir,

CENSOR.

June 1st.

## NOTE OF THE EDITOR.

We do not attach any importance whatever to the BULL's opinion on this matter. We know well that we are as free from any such murderous wishes as the BULL is of any intention to accuse us of them. But if we had said a tenth part of the evil against him which he has—unwittingly, no doubt—here uttered of us, every tongue in the Settlement would have cried out for the necessity of our immediate Transmission. He is, however, safe enough from such a fate, provided he confines his censures to the JOURNAL and the Papers to which it is chiefly indebted for its best articles on European Affairs.—ED.

# Shipping Arrivals.

## MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From Whence	Left
May 15	Anna Laura	British	T. Smith	Jaffnapatam	May 12
17	Bombay Merchant	British	J. Hill	Bussorah	May. 12
17	David Clarke	British	C. Miller	Penang	April 17

# Shipping Departures.

## MADRAS.

Date	Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
May 12	Moozaffer	British	J. A. Hurst	Calcutta
14	H. M. S. Glasgow	British	Doyle	England
15	Venus	British	G. Dawson	Eastern Ports

# Stations of Vessels in the River.

MAY 31, 1822.

At Diamond Harbour.—ST. THIAGO MAIOR (P.)—HENRY PORCHER, proceeded down,—WINDSOR CASTLE, outward-bound, remains,—LADY FLORA, proceeded down,—HELEN (brig) passed down,—DAVID CLARK, passed up.

Kedgerie.—DUKE OF BEDFORD, outward-bound, remains. New Anchorage.—His Majesty's Sloop CURLEW,—Honorable Company's Ships EARL OF BALCARRAS, and SIR DAVID SCOTT,—HARRIET, LADY NUGENT.

The ALEXANDER arrived off Calcutta on Friday last.

# Marriage.

At St. Thomas's Mount, Madras, on the 15th ultimo, by the Reverend ANTONIO DeCOSTA, Mr. C. D'ROZARIO, to Miss ISABELLA McIntire.

# Births.

At Dum-Dum, on the 1st instant, the Lady of Lieutenant T. A. VANRENEEN, Artillery, of a Son.

On the 30th ultimo, the Lady of H. ABBOTT, Esq. of a Son.

At Malda, on the 25th ultimo, the Lady of JOHN LAMB, Esq. Assistant Surgeon, of a Daughter.

At Juanpore, on the 19th ultimo, the Lady of JOSEPH RICHMOND, Esq. of a Daughter.

At Madras, on the 16th ultimo, the Lady of ROBERT LIMOND, Esq. Surgeon, Bengal Establishment, of a Daughter.

At Madras, on the 12th ultimo, the Lady of the Reverend W. ROY, Chaplain, of a Daughter.

At Jaulnah, on the 27th of April, the Wife of Captain BENTLEY, of a Daughter.

At Maddapollam, on the 17th of April, the Wife of Mr. Assistant Surveyor C. BARNETT, of a Son.

# Deaths.

At Royapooram, on the 16th ultimo, Mrs. EMELIA PERRY, wife of Mr. DANIEL PERRY, aged 42 years, leaving a disconsolate Husband and 4 young Children, to lament their irreparable loss.

At Seringapatam, on the 9th ultimo, Mr. PETER DAILY, aged 72 years.

At Negapatam, on the 5th ultimo, aged 2 years, JOHN WESLEY CLOSE, Son of the Reverend T. CLOSE, Missionary.

At Quilon, on the 4th and 5th ultimo, MARIA LOUISA, aged 3 months and 23 days,—and JOHN, aged 4 years and 8 months, the only Daughter and eldest Son of WILLIAM P. BIRMINGHAM, Esq. Assistant Surgeon in His Majesty's 89th Regiment.

At Cochin, on the 3d ultimo, on board the BARK GEORGE, when on his way to Madras, of the Cholera Morbus, after a few hour's illness, JAMES CHARLES SAYER, youngest Son of the late STALKER SAYER, of Paulhautherry, aged 13 years, 1 month and 10 days.

At Maddapollam, on the 22d of April, Mrs. L. BARNETT, leaving a disconsolate husband, and a large circle of relatives to bemoan her irreparable loss.

# Madras Rates of Exchange and Price of Company's Paper, May 13, 1822.

On England—at 30 days sight 1s. 9d. per Madras Rupee.

at 90 days sight 1s. 9½d. per ditto.

at 6 months sight 1s. 10d. per ditto.

On Bengal—at 30 days sight 92 to 93 Sa. Rs. per 100 ditto.

Company's Paper, Remittable 17 per cent. prem.—New Loan, 14



